

Canada voices concern over Lebanon

CAIRO (R) — Canadian Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Allan MacEachen Friday voiced concern at the situation in Lebanon and hoped the reconciliation conference would help resolve the conflict there. Mr. MacEachen, who arrived here on an official visit, told reporters at the airport Canada was against Israel's invasion of Lebanon last year. He called for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon which he said should be coupled with other moves to restore peace there. On Saturday, the Canadian secretary will begin talks on Middle East developments and other issues with Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hassan Ali who said Mr. MacEachen's visit reflected close bilateral ties.

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King, Iraqi leader exchange views

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein and Iraq's President Saddam Hussein Thursday exchanged views on recent developments in the Arab situation. In a telephone call, the King inquired about the frontline situation in the Iran-Iraq war following the new Iranian offensive Wednesday night on the northern front of the Gulf war. President Hussein assured the King that Iraqi forces have repelled the new Iranian aggression, and are still chasing fleeing Iranian troops, the Jordanian news agency, Petra, said. The King praised the heroic stand of the Iraqi army and their courageous drive for defending Iraqi soil, rights and sovereignty. Petra added.

Hussein congratulates Sudanese president

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of good wishes to President Ja'far Numairi of Sudan on the anniversary of October Revolution. In his cable the King wished President Numairi success in the leadership of Sudan to achieve progress and prosperity for his people.

Israeli Labour leads Likud in popularity

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's opposition Labour Party has moved ahead of the ruling Likud Party in a public opinion poll for the first time in two years, according to results published Friday. The poll, carried out during an economic crisis that has rocked Israel over the past three weeks, showed that Labour would win 52 seats in the 120-member parliament, six more than Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud, if an election were held now.

Cypriot embassies reportedly threatened

NICOSIA (R) — An unnamed terrorist group threatened to blow up Cypriot embassies and consulates abroad if Cyprus did not support the multi-national peace-keeping force in Lebanon, the government spokesman said Friday. Spokesman Andreas Christofides told Reuters the threats, made by telephone from outside Cyprus, were being investigated. He did not say when they were made. The threats had not come from any recognised source and the government had ignored them in formulating its policy on Lebanon, he said.

Soviet U.N. officers visit Israel

TEL AVIV (R) — Nine Soviet army officers serving with the United Nations Disengagement Observation Force (UNDOF) in Syria Friday made a rare visit to Israel, which has no relations with the Soviet Union. A U.N. spokesman said the officers, ranging from captain to lieutenant-colonel, attended a ceremony awarding prizes to UNDOF personnel at their base in Tiberias in northern Israel. The spokesman said similar visits had been made in past years but this was the largest single Soviet contingent to attend the ceremony.

Gulf war flares up in north front

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Friday its planes and helicopter gunships had inflicted heavy losses on Iranian troops and armour on the northern Gulf war front, where Iran launched a cross-border offensive two days ago.

A high command communique, quoted by the Iraqi News Agency (INA), said the raids "changed the battlefield into a hell for the enemy troops, setting its tanks and armour ablaze."

It said the aircraft flew a total of 270 missions and all returned safely to base.

It did not give latest Iranian casualties. But a communique issued in Baghdad Thursday night said 1,500 enemy troops had been killed in the offensive.

The communique said Iraqi planes also struck deep inside Iran Friday, but gave no details.

On the ground, the communique said Iraqi troops around the border town of Penjwin had repulsed an Iranian attempt to penetrate Iraqi defences Thursday night and wiped out the attackers. It said the Iraqi town, about 300 kilometres north-east of Baghdad, was the main target of Iran's latest offensive in the 37-month-old war.

Earlier Friday, INA quoted its correspondent at the northern front as saying Iraqi forces had recaptured some mountain peaks in a counter-attack near Penjwin. It said Iranian dead littered the battlefield, but did not indicate which peaks were retaken.

In Iran, military communiques, carried by Tehran Radio and the national Iranian news agency IRNA claimed Iranian forces had captured an Iraqi army garrison post at Garmak, which they said had been a base for training Iranian Kurdish rebels. They also claimed Iran had captured strategic heights, adding that 2,800 Iraqis had been killed or wounded in the offensive.

The communiques claimed Iranian troops had thrust 15 kilometres into Iraq at one point north-east of Iran's border town of Marivan and pushed to within one kilometre of Penjwin.

Sultan urges Western concern

ROME (R) — Saudi Defence Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz Friday urged greater concern by Western countries over the Iran-Iraq war which he said was more of a danger to them than to Saudi Arabia.

Referring at a press conference to a possible threat to oil supplies from any spread of the war, he said: "We are not the custodian of oil for the West. All interested countries should look at the question carefully."

Asked what Saudi Arabia would do if Iran blocked the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf, as it has threatened to do if Super Etendard planes supplied by France to Iraq are used to attack Iranian oil installations, Prince Sultan said:

"Saudi Arabia can live very well without oil. It is the importing countries which need it, and this question should be addressed to them."

Arms bought by Saudi Arabia from Italy and elsewhere were for defensive purposes, he said. His country did not want to re-kindle the three-year-old Gulf conflict but to put a stop to it.

meetings and to cooperate and coordinate with the Arab movement to achieve the following demands:

— The curfew in Beirut should come to an end.

— Censorship of the media should be cancelled because of the approaching national dialogue.

— Those in the Lebanese army who are trying to heat up the security situation in the Kharrub (a coastal area south of Beirut), Souk Al Gharb (a coastal village overlooking Beirut) and the southern suburbs (of Beirut) should stop it because it won't benefit anyone."

The disputes suggested the government and its opponents were still deeply divided despite agreement on a venue for long-delayed reconciliation talks to decide the political future of Lebanon.

Foreign Minister Elie Salem Thursday night announced that all the politicians invited to the conference had agreed to meet "on the territory of a friendly state."



END OF THE ROAD: Three Turkish drug manufacturers surrender to narcotics agents Thursday in a village in southeastern Turkey. They are seen with several buckets of diluted heroin confiscated in the operation which netted about 190 kilograms of the drug (A.P. wirephoto)

Hani Al Hassan: Emphasis is on strengthening Eastern Front

Fateh official reports initial success in Arafat-Assad reconciliation efforts

By Lamis K. Andoni
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A personal effort by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia to reconcile Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad has been crowned with initial success, according to a senior Palestinian leader.

Hani Al Hassan, political adviser to the PLO chairman and a member of the Fateh Central Committee, told the Jordan Times Friday that the Syrian president received a high-level Arafat emissary.

Khaled Al Hassan, late on Thursday evening, and the meeting between the two was characterised as "good" by Mr. Arafat's envoy.

The meeting in Damascus Thursday was the first direct contact between Mr. Assad and a personal representative of the PLO chairman, since the latter was expelled from Damascus last June.

Khaled Al Hassan is also a member of the Fateh Central Committee and brother of Hani Al Hassan, who is on an official visit to Jordan.



Hani Al Hassan

S. Arabia fulfils aid pledge to Jordan

By Philip Robins
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Saudi Arabia has paid its third and final instalment of financial assistance due to Jordan in 1983 under the provisions of the Baghdad summit, according to the under-secretary at the Ministry of Finance, Abdul Majid Qasem.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Qasem said that the last payment of \$119.5 million (about JD 35 million) had been transferred to the Central Bank of Jordan. This, combined with similar payments made on time in January and May, brought the Saudi contribution to \$358 million for the year, he said.

At the Arab summit in Baghdad in 1978, in the wake of Israeli-Egyptian talks which led to the 1979 Camp David treaty, it was

decided to make annual aid grants to the frontline states of Jordan, Syria and Lebanon as well as the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Under the provisions of the agreement Jordan was to receive an annual total of \$1,249.6 million to be made up by contribution of 7.1 per cent from Algeria, 14.9 per cent from Iraq, 15.7 per cent each from Kuwait and Libya, 6.6 per cent from Qatar, 28.6 per cent from Saudi Arabia and 11.4 per cent from the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Libya defaulted on its payments from the beginning and Algeria stopped after the first instalment. But, at Arab summit in Amman in 1980, the other contributors agreed to make up the difference.

However, due to a combination of falling oil revenues and the continuation of the war between Iran



Abdul Majid Qasem

and Iraq, some of the donor states reportedly became increasingly unable to pay. As a result, Iraq

(Continued on page 3)

Damascus rules out compromise with U.S.

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad has ruled out any compromise with the U.S. over Lebanon and said "the battle is continuing."

In a speech to a closing session of the ruling Baath Party central committee, reported by government-controlled newspapers Thursday, Mr. Assad said: "The battle might be fierce due to the presence of U.S. agents and collaborators" in Lebanon.

President Ronald Reagan told a press conference in Washington Wednesday night the U.S. would not stand by and allow Syria to

destroy peace prospects in Lebanon.

"The U.S. wants to tame Syria, the fortress that stands firm against American designs," Mr. Assad said.

"The Americans should know that no dialogue will take place at the expense of Syrian stand," he added.

Mr. Assad said Syria's uncompromising stand had paid off in Lebanon and backs a leftist opposition front opposing the Beirut government.

Syria has some 40,000 troops in Lebanon and backs a leftist opposition front opposing the Beirut government.

Chernenko loses key party post

MOSCOW (R) — Reports of a meeting of Kremlin officials in Moscow have confirmed that Konstantin Chernenko, number two in the Soviet hierarchy, has lost a key party post. Western diplomats said Friday.

They said it was now evident that Mr. Chernenko, who rivalled Yuri Andropov for the party leadership last year, had been replaced as head of the party's general department and therefore lost an important power base.

One diplomat, experienced in observing Kremlin changes, said the move was a firm indication that Mr. Andropov was depriving his erstwhile rival of influence in a bid to strengthen his own grip on power.

Reports in the official dailies Pravda and Izvestia this week listed participants at a Kremlin seminar and named a certain A. Lukyanov as deputy head of the general department.

This was the first authoritative confirmation that the former deputy head, Klavdii Bogolyubov, had moved up to take charge of the department, which is the most powerful in the Communist Party Central Committee.

The diplomats said there were clear indications that Mr. Chernenko had lost the post last December, shortly after Mr. Andropov took over as party chief.

Fateh groups clash in Damascus

DAMASCUS (R) — Rival Palestinian guerrilla groups fought a 30-minute gunbattle in central Damascus early Friday and local residents said several people were wounded. Bursts of automatic fire were heard around an office of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fateh commando group as Arafat loyalists apparently tried to retake it from rebels. A rebel spokesman said Arafat supporters fired from a speeding car on guards at the building, a so-called mobilisation office. The spokesman said he did not know if the guards had returned the fire. Local residents, however, said loud gunfire exchanges went on for some time in the residential neighbourhood. The Fateh office was seized by rebels on Oct. 10 after a gunfight, in which one man died.

King reaffirms support for PLO leadership

By Afifah A. Kaloti
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein has reaffirmed Jordan's support for the legitimate leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the independence of Palestinian decision making.

In a meeting Thursday with Hani Al Hassan and Rafiq Al Nathe, members of the Central Committee of Fateh, the mainstream PLO group, the King also called for "serious work towards supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian nation against Zionist settlement policies (in the occupied territories)," the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

During the meeting with the Fateh officials, the King reviewed the latest developments in the Palestinian arena, the situation in the Israeli-occupied Arab territories and the crises facing the PLO, Petra added.

Later on Thursday, Mr. Hassan and Mr. Nathe met with members of the Palestine National Council (PNC) living in Jordan and leading Palestinian figures and briefed them on the problems within the PLO.

In a meeting held at the PLO office in Amman, Mr. Hassan described the revolt within Fateh as "two dimensional." "Nobody disputes the existence of problems and corruption in Fateh," Mr. Hassan said. "But this is only one of the dimensions," he said. "The other is that certain Arab regimes have exploited the situation."

Mr. Hassan and Mr. Nathe spoke about the many attempts to

heal the Fateh rift and said that divisions affect the morale of the Palestinian people and "that is why we have to preserve unity." They said that reforms should be carried out but through means of "organisational framework."

They said that they are prepared to strengthen ties with Syria but the conditions for this relation should be based on the independence of Palestinian decisions and the freedom to establish relations with any other state in accordance with the resolutions of the PNC.

"Any established relations should be to the benefit of the Palestinian cause and this is the Palestinian drive," they said.

Mr. Nathe pointed out that there is a "conspiracy" against the leadership of the PLO.

"Had they felt that the Reagan initiative of Sept. 1 was unanimously acceptable by Palestinians (the U.S.) would have withdrawn it," he said.

Mr. Hassan said that the Palestine revolution's most important achievement is its political identity. "If the Palestinians are deprived of their political identity they would be automatically deprived of their land," he said.

"The Palestinian nation, which is internationally recognised, has its own institutions through which it works for the Palestinian cause," he added.

The Fateh officials said that PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's leadership of the organisation is derived from a popular mandate and his "setbacks and achievements are the responsibilities of all Palestinian forces."

Arafat accepts reform plans, says Fateh office

KUWAIT (R) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and his Fateh guerrilla group have accepted proposals for reform of the PLO put forward by two Palestinian groups, the Fateh office here said Thursday.

A Fateh spokesman said the acceptance had been announced by the PLO's deputy military commander Khalil Al Wazir (Abu Jihad), in Lebanon's northern port of Tripoli.

The reform proposals were put forward last Sunday by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP).

They demanded a collective PLO leadership, all-out armed struggle against Israel and rejection of all Middle East peace

plans. Their demands were almost identical to those of rebels within Fateh, who have been waging a bitter campaign against Mr. Arafat's leadership of the guerrilla group and the PLO for the last six months.

"The Palestinian leadership has responded to the reform programme set by the PFLP and DFLP," the spokesman said, describing it as "a positive stand that the Fateh movement supports and adheres to."

The PFLP, headed by George Habash, and the DFLP, led by Nayef Hawatmeh, blamed "errors and corruption" in the PLO on its present leadership.

They also demanded stepped-up guerrilla operations inside Israel and Lebanon.

Senior British minister to visit Jordan next month

LONDON (Agencies) — British Foreign Office Minister Richard Luce will visit Jordan next month as part of a Middle East visit, official sources said Friday.

Mr. Luce, who handles Middle East affairs for the British government, is also expected to visit Israel and Egypt, the sources said.

The British official, expected to arrive in Israel on Oct. 31 and will fly on to Jordan and Egypt, the officials added. Before his nine-day visit to the Middle East, Mr. Luce will also visit Washington, the sources said. He is expected to fly to Washington on Monday for a three-day visit.

During his visit to the Middle East, Mr. Luce will urge moves towards peace in the region, the sources said.

Mr. Luce told journalists Thursday night: "Imaginative diplomacy is urgently needed to break the deadlock and halt the drift towards renewed conflict (between Arabs and Israelis)."

The Foreign Office stressed that the visits did not represent a diplomatic initiative by Mr. Luce, saying he merely sought closer familiarity with the countries of the region and it was not yet known whom he would meet.

Mr. Luce told a journalists' organisation in London Thursday that the visits were part of British plans to maintain an active role in international efforts to seek a solution.

Many reported killed in Grenada violence

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados (R) — Grenada's military rulers said at least 15 people died in shooting between soldiers and supporters of the late Prime Minister Maurice Bishop on Wednesday.

A statement from the new ruling military revolutionary council said "many people" had died in the shooting after Mr. Bishop's supporters took over military barracks at Fort Rupert.

The official radio Free Grenada said Friday nine bodies were re-

turned to their families, not including those of Mr. Bishop, three of his former ministers and two union leaders, and that more were expected to be returned Friday. Four soldiers were among the dead.

The council, headed by Army Commander General Hudson Austin, Friday announced the list of its 16 members and issued a statement blaming Mr. Bishop for the bloodshed.

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MIDDLE EAST

Reagan warns Iran West will not 'tolerate' any blockade

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan, refusing to rule out the possibility of United States military force, has warned Iran that the West will not tolerate any blockade of the Gulf.

At his first formal news conference in nearly three months, Mr. Reagan's warning to Iran was only one of a string of hard-line comments designed to show he is standing firm on U.S. missile deployments in Europe, on the Middle East and Lebanon, and on support for rebels in Nicaragua.

On the Gulf, the president was asked whether the United States would use military force if Iran carried out a reported threat to blockade the Strait of Hormuz, closing shipping lanes to the Gulf oil fields.

He declined to answer directly but said he wanted to make one thing clear: "I do not believe the free world could stand by and allow anyone to close the Strait of Hormuz and the Persian Gulf."

Pressed to say whether he meant the use of military force, he said with a smile: "That's for them to wonder about."

On Lebanon, where six U.S. Marines in the four-nation peacekeeping force have been killed in factional fighting since August, Mr. Reagan urged Syria to stop blocking a settlement and said the United States would not stand by while Damascus destroyed chances for peace.

"I know the Syrians are dragging their feet... contributing to the disorder and trouble in Lebanon," he said. "There is no way

we will just stand by and let Syria destroy what so many people want — peace and order in that country."

Mr. Reagan said U.S. Marines would remain part of the Multi-National Force (MNF) as long as there was a possibility of making his September 1982 Middle East peace plan work.

"We are going to keep on doing what we're doing: Trying to complete a plan launched little more than a year ago," he said.

State Department doubts

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The State Department said the current situation in Lebanon raises questions about Syria's behaviour and intentions although there has been no official indication from Damascus that Syria is "backing away" from its commitment to the cease-fire and national reconciliation process in Lebanon.

Spokesman John Hughes told reporters that the United States is concerned about the situation on the ground in Lebanon.

"Clearly there are problems and we are concerned about them," the spokesman said. "Nevertheless, the parties involved on the diplomatic front continue to work at the reconciliation process and the establishing of a

suitable venue for the reconciliation committee to meet."

Mr. Hughes said the United States hoped "all the parties will participate," but emphasised that Washington cannot "dictate the form of those discussions."

Asked about news reports that indicated senior White House officials feel Syria may not be interested in peace talks in Lebanon, Mr. Hughes replied:

"I think there are certainly questions arising about Syria's behaviour and intentions. But the fact of the matter is that the United States has heard nothing from the Syrian government to indicate that it is backing away from the commitments it has made under the cease-fire agreement."

He said there was no question that some of the firing going on in Lebanon "is coming from areas under Syrian control," and that was "one of the factors that raises questions about Syria's role."

Mr. Hughes pointed out that "Syria certainly was a key player in the arrangements that were worked out for a ceasefire and the steps that will be taken thereafter."

"We have to call upon them to come through and honour their commitments," the spokesman said.

He said regular diplomatic consultations were going on with Syria and with others involved in the process.

But he declined to itemise the commitments the United States wants Syria to honour.

In response to a question, the

spokesman said he would not say it would be "the end of Lebanon" if the national reconciliation dialogue did not take place.

"Certainly the reconciliation process is something that we believe in very strongly," Mr. Hughes said. "Certainly that is a much better prospect than the kind of violence and loss of life that one sees in the country at the moment."

Mr. Hughes said it is the U.S. belief that "a stable Lebanon is in the interests of most governments in the region."

He said President Gemayel has been working vigorously "to broaden his government to include all elements of Lebanon's political spectrum."

Mr. Hughes said it would be "pleasant" if President Hafez Assad were to publicly restate his support, but added, "we are not asking for that specifically to be done."

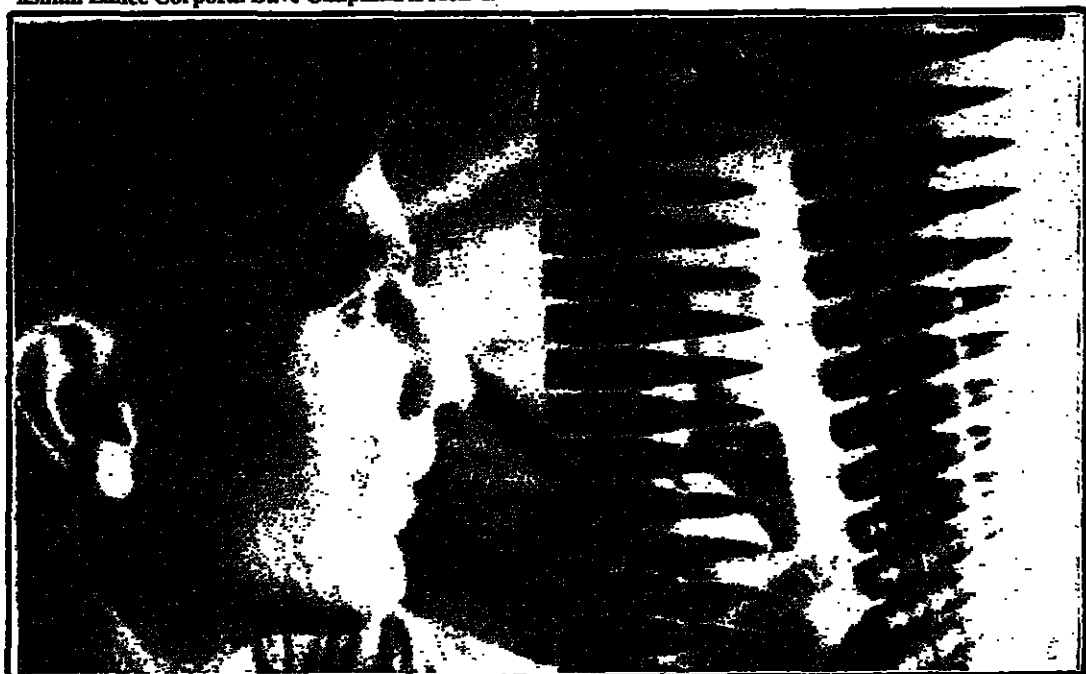
He denied that by calling on Syria to honour its commitments, he was implying that Syria has been trying to undermine the reconciliation process in Lebanon.

"I think that as one looks at the situation in Lebanon, clearly questions are arising in the minds of some people about Syria's intentions," Mr. Hughes reiterated.

"Having said all that, in terms of our official relationship with Syria and the Syrian government, we have not had any indication that they are backing away from the understanding and commitments that were agreed upon. So we will hold them to them," he said.



(Above) Three members of the Shi'ite militia 'Amal' (hope) pictured at a sandbagged position in the southern suburbs of Beirut. (Below) U.S. Marine marksman Lance Corporal Dave Chapman is seen in his bunker with five rounds of ammunition, on duty in his position at Charlie Company serving at Beirut's international airport (A.P. wirephoto)



'Passive resistance' idea gets mixed reception

JERUSALEM, Occupied West Bank — A group of West Bank Palestinians last week concluded a three-day seminar which they hope will help launch a Palestinian passive-resistance movement.

Dr. Mubarak Awad, a Palestinian who runs a youth-counselling project in Ohio, has taken a year's sabbatical to try to promote the idea of non-violent struggle for Palestinian independence among West Bankers and Gazans. The idea is being actively supported and encouraged by two American aid groups, the Society of Friends (Quakers) and the Mennonites. The closing session was held at the Friends' Girls' school in Ramallah.

At the opening session at the YWCA in East Jerusalem last week Awad told a small audience of mainly young people that the Palestinian struggle requires a new method of social liberation. He made it clear that his aim was both social and political in that he wanted to bring about a passive-

South Yemen, Oman plan more talks

KUWAIT (R) — Omani and South Yemeni officials will meet on Oct. 29 to discuss remaining border disputes, a senior Kuwaiti official was quoted as saying.

Salem Jaber Al-Ahmed, secretary-general of the Kuwaiti foreign ministry, told the daily newspaper Al-Rai' Al-Am the joint border committee meeting would come two days after the establishment of diplomatic relations by the two neighbours.

Oman and South Yemen agreed to establish diplomatic ties last year after mediation by Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates on behalf of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council, which also groups Oman, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and Qatar.

They also agreed to end propaganda campaigns against each other and to ban the stationing in either country of foreign troops hostile to the other, and to settle border disputes by negotiation.

Denktash wants to avoid clash with Ankara

ANKARA (R) — Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash was quoted as saying he hoped Ankara would not oppose the will of Turkish Cypriots should they decide to go ahead with Unilateral Declaration of Independence (UDI).

In an interview with the Turkish daily Cumhuriyet, he said Turkish Cypriots expected Ankara to back their initiatives for self-determination, "especially after Turkey did so much and sacrificed so much to rescue our rights."

The eastern Mediterranean island has been divided into a Turkish north and Greek Cypriot south since Turkish troops invaded in 1974.

Ankara wants Mr. Denktash to enter into inter-communal talks on the island's future, but he has said these would be fruitless and threatened to declare independence.

Asked if he would carry out the threat despite Ankara's reservations, Mr. Denktash said: "It all depends on how Ankara sees the situation."

"If there appears to be no other way out... then we hope and expect that at least Ankara meets us with understanding and does not oppose us."

"We have been independent since 1975 as a federated state, so the question is not one of declaring our independence again but of changing our name to northern republic of Cyprus. This is what our people want," he added.

A Turkish foreign ministry spokesman meanwhile said no country had the right to pressure Turkey on the Cyprus issue.

He said some "friendly" countries have approached Turkey to ask for information on latest developments concerning Cyprus.

UAE takes stand on Gulf issue

ABU DHABI (R) — The deputy commander of the armed forces of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zaid Al-Nahayan, was quoted as saying the Gulf states would not allow the closure of the Strait of Hormuz by Iran.

In an interview with the Muscat daily newspaper Oman, Sheikh Khalifa said "Iran's threats to close the strait are unacceptable because this will affect us all in the Gulf."

"The international community cannot remain silent if Iran closed the strait in violation of international shipping conventions," he was quoted as saying in the first comment by a senior UAE official.

Sheikh Khalifa, who is also heir apparent of Abu Dhabi, expressed the hope Iran and Iraq would settle their three-year-old war through negotiations.

Egyptian armed forces remain alert, tackle non-military jobs

By Hamza Hendawi
Reuters

CAIRO — Ten years after they fought their last war against Israel, Egypt's estimated 500,000-strong armed forces are not only striving to maintain combat readiness but are also tackling the country's pressing development problems.

Soldiers have helped build roads and lay telephone lines and are growing their own food.

Defence Minister Abdel-Halim Abu Ghazala said in a recent newspaper interview that current efforts to maintain combat abilities are similar to those which preceded the Oct. 6 war with Israel.

He said the armed forces have staged 383 exercises with live ammunition so far this year. This, according to Field Marshal Abu Ghazala, compares with 400 in the years 1967 to 1973.

Egypt, although it signed a peace treaty with Israel in 1979, raised military spending by 22 per cent in the current fiscal year which began in July.

Defence spending for the year was put at 2.13 billion Egyptian pounds (\$2.55 billion) compared with 1.74 billion pounds (\$2.08 billion) in 1982-83. United States

military aid is running at \$1.3 billion a year.

Egypt says its peace policies with Israel are part of a long-term strategy but many units remain on the Western side of the Suez Canal, defence sources said.

A senior staff army officer, speaking to Reuters on condition that he remained anonymous, said it would be folly not to have contingency plans to fight a desert battle in Sinai.

Israel potential foe

The U.S.-trained officer said Egypt still had to view Israel as a potential foe.

He said the frontier with Libya, where a powerful force is also deployed, was not tense at present.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak has recently assured Libya, with whom Egypt fought a brief border war in 1977, that his country had no intention of fighting another Arab state.

Egypt, meanwhile, is launching a military modernisation programme, shopping for arms from the United States, Britain, France, Italy, Romania, China and North Korea.

On its order lists are sophisticated arms such as the French

Mirage-2000 and U.S. F-16 warplanes, U.S. M-60 tanks and Hawk radar surveillance planes.

But despite Egypt's huge purchases of Western arms, the armed forces are said by defence sources to remain largely dependent on Soviet-made weapons.

The Soviet MiG-21, for example, remains the air force's main strike aircraft, the sources said.

Egypt depends on countries like North Korea, China and Romania for most spares for Soviet-made arms and Field Marshal Abu Ghazala said that Egyptian engineers have succeeded in manufacturing some and also improving the firepower of others.

Egypt, Moscow's closest ally in the Arab World from the mid-1950s until the early 1970s, says Moscow halted arms and spares supplies because of differences over Middle East policies.

Egyptian SAM-7s

Last month, the defence minister announced that Egypt had successfully produced and tested an Egyptian version of the SAM-7 ground-to-air missile. Egypt has also fitted elderly

Soviet T-54 tanks with British-made Chieftain motors to give them more speed.

Meanwhile, a large number of senior Egyptian officers travel to the United States, Britain and France on courses.

"Although the treasury was able to raise military spending by 22 per cent this year, defence sources say the armed forces, in common with those in most other Third World countries, are feeling the pinch in the world recession."

The one million who were in uniform on the eve of the 1973 war are now reduced by half and the use of live ammunition in war games is being carefully rationed, the sources added.

But the drastic cut in the size of the armed forces, Field Marshal Abu Ghazala said, responded to the small manpower requirements of the Western arms Egypt has been buying lately.

A growing demand for skilled labour and the high pay of unskilled labour in the construction sector have also deprived the armed forces of recruits. More warrant officers have in recent years opted for civilian life when their five-year service came up for renewal, the sources added.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

—MAIN CHANNEL—

17:30 Koran
17:40 Cartoons
18:10 Children's Programme
18:30 Eight in Enough
19:00 Local Programme
19:30 News in Arabic
20:00 Arabic Series
20:30 Local Programme on Jordan
21:30 Arabic Play
22:00 News in Arabic
23:00 Play Continued

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 M.A.S.H.: The Merchant of Korea
21:00 Documentary: Portrait of Power — F.D. Roosevelt — Part 2
21:20 Saturday Variety Show
22:00 News in English
22:15 Feature Film: The Crit

RADIO JORDAN

835 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.00 KHz, SW

07:00 Morning Show
07:30 Morning Bulletin
07:35 Morning Show
08:00 News Summary
08:05 World News 22:00 World News 22:00
08:10 Morning Show
11:00 News Summary
11:05 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
12:30 News Summary
12:35 News Bulletin
13:00 News Summary
13:05 News Bulletin
14:00 News Summary
14:15 Instrumentals
14:30 Jordan Weekly/Music
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
17:00 Special Feature
17:30 Music
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Top Twenty
19:00 News
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Book Club
20:30 The Young Sound

BBC WORLD SERVICE

630, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsweek 06:30 Kings of Jazz
06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections
07:00 World News 07:00 British Press
Review 07:15 About Britain 07:30 New
Ideas 07:40 Book Choice 07:45 The
World Today 08:00 Newsweek 08:30
About Time 09:00 World News 09:00
News about Britain 09:15 From the
Weeklies 09:30 Classical Record
Review 09:45 Network UK 10:00 World
News 10:05 News 10:15 Flashes
and Swans 10:30 Brain Britain 1983
11:00 World News 11:00 British Press
Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30
Financial News 11:30 Look Ahead
11:45 People and Politics 12:15 What's
New 12:30 My Music 13:00 World News
13:00 News about Britain 13:15 About
Britain 13:30 Mendian 14:00 Radio
Newsworld 14:15 Anything Goes 14:45
Sports Round-up 15:00 World News
15:00 Newsweek 15:15 Network UK
15:30 Detective 16:00 Saturday Special
16:30 Play of the Week: Hamlet 21:30
Special 18:00 World News 18:00 Com-
mentary 18:15 Saturday Special 19:00
World News 19:00 Saturday Special
19:00 Radio Newsworld 19:15 Saturday
Special 19:30 World News 19:30 Com-
mentary 19:45 Sports Round-up 19:55
From the Promenade Concerts 19:55 Sports
Round-up 20:00 Newsweek 20:00 News
about Britain 20:15 Radio Newsworld
20:30 Play of the Week: Hamlet 21:30
Album Time 22:00 World News 22:00
Commentary 22:15 World News 22:15
People of the Pacific Century 23:15
What's New 23:30 People and Politics
24:00 World News 24:00 From Our Own
Correspondent 00:30 News Ideas 00:40
Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up
01:00 World News 01:00 Newsweek
01:15 Letterbox 01:30 Meridian

VOICE OF AMERICA

1260, 7205, 11925, 15205

06:00 VOA Morning News: News
summaries, daily business reports, sci-
ence and medicine, sports reports.
VOA editorial and world and U.S. op-
inion round-ups: Daily documentary
analysis 17:00 News 17:10 This Week
17:30 Special English News and Fea-
tures 18:00 News 18:10 American Vic-
tories 18:30 Press Conference USA

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Third solo exhibition of Adam Al Hila, at the Holiday Inn.
* Paintings by Gaetano Fabris, at the Alia Art Gallery.
* Paintings by Omar Shalwan, at the French Cultural Centre.

* "Rak's Progress," at the French Cultural Centre.
* "Two Brothers" exhibition of modern art by Mohammad Bolls and Jamal Akhmis, at the Professional Associations Complex.

BALLET

* Scottish ballet performs at the Royal Cultural Centre.

LECTURE

* The Friends of Archaeology in co-operation with American Centre of Oriental Research (ACOR) present a lecture by Dr. Irfan Shahid from Georgetown University, entitled "Byzantium and the Arabs Before the Rise of Islam," at 6:30 p.m. at ACOR.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre. Tel. 6610672
American Centre 44371
American Cultural Library 441520
British Council 36147-8
French Cultural Centre 37069
Goethe Institute 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre 24019
Turkish Cultural Centre 39777
Haya Arts Centre 665155
Husseini Youth City 667181
Y.W.C.A. 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. 664231
Amman Municipal Library 36111
University of Jordan Library 843555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th

centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Mumtaz, Jabal Leilweid. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 30125.

Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 37169.

SERVICE CLUBS

Leas Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Tyche Hotel, 1:30 p.m.
Leas Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Marriott Hotel, 1:30 p.m.
Leas Philadelphia Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Leas Philadelphia Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club, Jabal Amman. Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261.

PRAYER TIMES

04:32 Fajr
05:45 Sunrise
11:21 Sunrise
12:37 Dhuhr
14:37 Asr
16:37 Maghrib
18:23 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport, tel. (08) 53250, 53070, 53082, 53171, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

06:55 Cairo (EA)
07:15 Kuwait (KAC)
08:45 Cairo (EA)
09:05 Baghdad (IA)
09:15 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:15 Jeddah (RJ)
09:35 Karachi (RJ)
09:45 Dhahran (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
10:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:15 Beirut (RJ)
10:35 Muscat, Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GA)
11:30 Larnaka (Cyprus Air)
12:25 Cairo (EA)
14:00 Kuwait (KAC)
15:30 Cairo (EA)
16:30 Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (AF)
16:55 Paris (AF)
17:15 Beirut (MEA)
17:15 Frankfurt, Geneva (RJ)
17:15 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
17:15 Istanbul (RJ)
17:45 Rhodes (RJ)
17:45 Madrid, Tripoli (RJ)
18:00 Copenhagen, Athens (RJ)
18:05 Rome (Alitalia)
18:15 Kuwait (KAC)
18:30 Cairo (EA)
19:55 Cairo (EA)
20:30 Athens (Olympic)
20:30 Frankfurt, Damascus (LX)
00:25 Cairo (EA)
00:30 Cairo (EA)
00:45 Baghdad (RJ)

DEPARTURES

06:30 Beirut (RJ)
07:00 Rhodes (RJ)
07:40 Larnaka, Paris (EF)
08:55 Cairo (EA)
09:15 Kuwait (KAC)
09:30 Athens (Olympic)
09:35 Beirut (MEA)
11:00 Rhodes (RJ)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:15 Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
11:20 Athens (GA)
11:30 Cairo (RJ)
11:30 Istanbul (RJ)

12:00 Paris, London (RJ)
12:35 Larnaka (Cyprus Air)
13:00 Cairo (EA)
14:25 Kuwait (KAC)
15:40 Baghdad (IA)
17:30 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Muscat (GA)
19:00 Kuwait (RJ)
19:15 Dhahran (RJ)
19:40 Jeddah (RJ)
20:15 Baghdad (RJ)
20:30 Cairo (RJ)
20:30 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
20:55 Cairo (EA)
01:25 Cairo (EA)
04:45 Cairo (RJ)

There will be medium and high clouds, with southeasterly moderate winds, which will be dusty sometimes. In Amman, winds will be dusty and southerly active, with calm seas.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Low/high temperature in deg. C
Amman 15/27
Aqaba 18/23
Deserts 18/23
Jordan Valley 18/35

Yesterday's high temperatures:
Amman 29, Aqaba 31. Humidity readings: Amman 17 per cent, Aqaba 19 per cent.

MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in JLS
Belgian franc 68.8/ 69.3
Dutch guilder 125/ 125.8
Egyptian pound 329/ 331.5
French franc 46/ 46.3
Iraqi dinar 401.6/ 410
Omani rial 1050/ 1050.7
Qatari rial 99.8/ 100.5
Saudi riyal 105.1/ 105.7
Swedish crown 46.9/ 47.2
Swiss franc 173/ 174
Syrian lira 59.3/ 60.5
U.A.E. dirham 99.3/ 99.9
U.K. sterling pound 544.7/ 548
U.S. dollar 364/ 366
W. German mark 140.5/ 141.3

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES

Ambulance 193, 75111
First aid, fire, police 199
Blood bank 75121
Civil Defence rescue 661111
Fire headquarters 22090-3
Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777
Police headquarters 39141
Traffic police 56390-1
Electric Power Co. 56381-2
Municipal water provider 71125-6
Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333

HOSPITALS

Hussein Medical Centre 813813-32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amman 44281-4
Akhil Maternity, J. Amman 42441
Jabal Amman Maternity 42362
Malhas, J. Amman 36146
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171-4
Sheikhs Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845445
Dae Al-Shifa, J. Hussein 667158
Al-Munasher Hospital 66727-9
The Islamic, Abdali 665292
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164
Islamic, Al-Muhajirin 77101-3
Al-Basir, J. Ashrafieh 75111
Army, Marka 91611

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Yousef Daoud Rashid 96301

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in JLS per kg.
Apple (American) 200/180
Apple (Double Red) 170/150
Apple (Golden) 170/150
Apple (Starline) 170/150
Apple (local)

Iraqi ministerial team arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — Iraqi transport and communications ministry under-secretary and deputy head of the Iraqi side in the Jordanian-Iraqi joint ministerial committee Abdul Sattar Farhan and his accompanying delegation arrived in Amman Thursday on a six-day visit, during which, they will meet with senior Jordanian officials.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Farhan said that this visit comes as part of a series of continuous meetings aimed at promoting and developing cooperation in all fields

between the two states, and promoting the exchange of trade, industrial, transport, banking and oil activities.

The joint committee will discuss an increase in trade exchange, the exemption of all goods traded between two countries from taxes, and the promotion of the exchange of economic delegations between the two countries, according to Mr. Farhan.

He also added that the committee will discuss topics related to the Arab Air Cargo and the linking Jordan and Iraq with railways

and telecommunications.

In the irrigation and agriculture fields, the committee will discuss the possibility of Iraq benefiting from Jordanian expertise in underground resource assessment and exploration. In the industrial field, the committee will discuss the supplying of Jordan with super phosphates and sulphur, added Mr. Farhan.

Mr. Farhan was received at the airport by the Ministry of Industry and Trade under-secretary and senior ministry officials, the Iraqi ambassador in Jordan and the director of Arab Air Cargo.



Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh (third from right), waiting to leave Jordan Thursday after a three-day visit in the company of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and British ambassador Alan Urwick (to Prince Philip's right).

Prince Philip ends three-day visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Britain's Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, left Amman Thursday after a three-day private visit as guest of His Royal Highness

Crown Prince Hassan. Prince Philip, the husband of Queen Elizabeth II, arrived in Jordan Monday and met His Majesty King Hussein.

Prince Philip was seen off at the airport by Prince Hassan, Royal Court Minister Amer Khammash, the British Ambassador in Jordan, Alan Urwick, and other officials.

Fateh official reports initial success

(Continued from page 1)

Details of what went on in the meeting in Damascus were not available, but Hani Al Hassan was optimistic that it could be followed by another between Mr. Arafat and the Syrian president, soon.

"The fact that the meeting was held in the first place is definitely a success. Credit must be due to King Fahd and his personal efforts, as well as the role played by Saudi Arabia in bringing us (Palestinians and Syrians) together," Hani Al Hassan said. "Abu Al Sa'ed (Khaled) told me, in a telephone conversation from Damascus last night, that the meeting was 'good' and we're hoping that it could be followed with another between the PLO chairman and the Syrian president soon. This is a success," he added.

(News agencies carried reports on Friday of the Damascus meeting, and Khaled Al Hassan was quoted as saying only that he and Mr. Assad discussed all questions pertinent to the Palestinian problem, and that results of their meeting would be known very soon. He, and his brother Hani, are considered staunch Arafat supporters, and are opposed to the rebel movement inside their PLO organisation, Fateh, which is the biggest and strongest grouping within the PLO.)

On his visit to Jordan, Hani Al Hassan said: "Palestinians and Jordanians are fully agreed that the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship is a strategic necessity for us. And although there might be points of differences here and there, this would not bring to a halt the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, as we all know of the American-Israeli plan to divide the Arab region into statelets. The Israelis are aiming at breaking the Jordanian-Palestinian unity. This is their way to the West Bank and Gaza. And hence our visit to Amman." Mr. Hassan is accompanied here by Mr. Rafik Natsh, the PLO representative in Riyadh, who is also a member of

the Fateh Central Committee.

Strengthening Eastern Front

"Our exchange of views here is a natural, if not axiomatic, result of the failure of the United States to make Israel withdraw from Lebanon, and of Washington's failure to stop the building of Jewish settlements (in the occupied Arab territories)," Mr. Hassan said. "We, and Jordan, are working together to confront Israel's colonisation programme in the occupied territories. We are aiming at crystallising a common stand for the next Arab summit (scheduled for Saudi Arabia next month), which should work out a mechanism for implementing the resolutions of the Fez summit (last

year). But, most of all, our strongest emphasis is on rebuilding the Eastern Front, whose backbone, is the Jordanian and Syrian armies, backed by the PLO, to confront Israel."

Mr. Hassan went on to say that, "without a military strength to back it up, no political move can mean anything". In the meeting between President Assad and Khaled Al Hassan, rebuilding the Eastern Front was a subject discussed, he said. "And, we think, the meeting was a landmark in attempting to reach a common understanding with our Syrian brothers" in this respect. "This will also help take joint effective political and strategic moves, within a framework of real Arab solidarity," he added.

S. Arabia fulfils pledge

(Continued from page 1)

was unable to make its final payment in 1982 while the financial ability of certain Gulf countries to continue their obligations has appeared increasingly uncertain.

Mr. Qasem said that Jordan had also received the first instalment of Kuwait's \$196.4 million expected assistance. The second and third amounts are still likely to be made before the end of December, he said, for Kuwait does not begin paying before July 1 as this is the date when its central government budget is approved.

Mr. Qasem also said that he was

"still hoping" that Qatar and the UAE would continue to pay, but said that Jordan was "aware" of the economic problems that have befallen those two states as a result of the drop in oil production. In 1982, Jordan received a total of \$660 million in Arab aid, a factor which apparently was partly responsible for the balance of payments deficit of around \$300 million in that year.

The 1983 central government budget was based on the receipt of around \$645 million in Arab aid which, if only the Kuwaiti and Saudi Arabian contributions are received, is expected to produce a shortfall of some \$90 million.

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Her Majesty Queen Noor presents a degree certificate Thursday to one of the graduates from the Princess Basma Women's Police Institute with Public Security Director Lt.-Gen. Mohammad Idris in attendance (Petra photo)

Noor graduates policewomen

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Thursday attended the graduation ceremony of the 17th batch of women police, held in the Princess Basma Women's Police Institute grounds, where she presented the degrees.

The institute director thanked Queen Noor for attending the ceremony and said that the Public Security Directorate's care for policewomen is part of Jordan's development drive and aimed at guaranteeing the security of all people.

The institute has graduated several batches of policewomen since 1971, and the graduates are now an effective part of Jordan's security system, the director said. She added that young Jordanian

women have recently been more willing to join the police corps after a tangible change in people's attitude towards the profession.

Following the graduation ceremony at which Queen Noor inspected the new graduates, the Queen viewed demonstrations of judo and karate presented by institute students.

The ceremony was attended by Public Security Director Lt.-Gen. Mohammad Idris and senior public security officers.

Majali participates in Georgetown talks

WASHINGTON (Petra) — Jordan has participated in the international seminar on leadership which is organised annually at Georgetown University.

Jordan was represented at the seminar, on behalf of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, by the former Jordanian Ambassador to the U.S. Abdul Hadi Al Majali.

The seminar discussed important issues among which were strategic arms limitation and the role of industrial nations in rescheduling the debts of Third

World nations.

The seminar was attended by political and intellectual figures and university professors.

In a speech to the gathering, Mr. Majali pointed out Jordan's view towards the Camp David agreement and President Reagan's proposals for Middle East peace and stressed that Jordan's stand is based on the necessity of recognising the Palestinian people's rights and the Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories in accordance with U.N. resolutions and the Fez Summit.

WHO to form advisory council to aid director

AMMAN (Petra) — The World Health Organisation (WHO) eastern Mediterranean regional committee, which concluded its 30th session conference in Amman Thursday, recommended the formation of a consultative council, to advise the regional WHO director. The council will consist of eight members drawn from Cyprus, Egypt, Iraq, Kuwait, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia under the chairmanship of Minister of Health Dr. Zuhair Malhas.

The committee stressed the importance of expanding the Arab regional programme with the aim of satisfying present and future needs and asked the WHO regional director to continue his efforts

aimed at unifying Arab medical terminology.

The committee also called on the Arab health ministers council to support the programme through aid grants not included in the budget.

The committee then asked the regional director to submit a report to the next regional committee's session on the efforts made regarding the transfer of the WHO eastern Mediterranean regional bureau.

The committee called member countries, which have not submitted their reports yet on progress in the achievement of the "Health for all by the year 2000" programme, to submit these reports.

Industry seminar ends

AMMAN (Petra) — A seminar on the relationship between universities and industry, organised by the Engineering and Technology College at the University of Jordan in cooperation with the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), was concluded at the university Thursday.

Dr. Munif Al Masri, head of the mechanical engineering section at the college, told the Jordan News

Agency, Petra, that the seminar has been the first of its kind in Jordan and all participants came to the conclusion that university-industry cooperation is both necessary and fruitful to both sides.

Graduating students can benefit a lot through directing their research work and thesis to profit from opportunities offered by private and public industry to examine.

AOSM meeting emphasises training

AMMAN (Petra) — The general assembly of the Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology (AOSM) Thursday ended its sixteenth regular session here.

Concluding the four-day meeting, the assembly recommended AOSM to develop its data-collection and documentation facilities in the standardisation and metrology fields at both Arab and international levels.

AOSM is to develop its training programmes so as to secure better performances from Arab standardisation and metrology bodies, in addition to promoting cooperation between AOSM and specialised governmental and public bodies in this field.

The assembly also asked the AOSM general secretariat to follow up its previous work on issuing guides on quality control which

will be helpful in developing Arab industry, and providing Arab libraries with reliable resources on this issue.

A recommendation for improving the performance of the translation section of the AOSM which deals with basic international specifications by providing it with qualified personnel was also recommended by the meeting. Also a book on metrology for academic purposes is to be commissioned on the meeting's recommendations.

The AOSM general meeting also approved the report and recommendations of the fourth annual meeting of Arab metrology departments' directors held recently in Amman. Arab countries

are given the choice whether to apply the qualitative specifications, which are deemed suitable to every individual country, as drawn up by the meeting.

A recommendation for the use of Arab numbers by Arab member countries was also approved by the meeting, which in addition approved the AOSM annual budget and the organisation's programme for 1984.

Heads of delegations to the meeting representing Syria, Iraq, Sudan and AOSM Secretary-General, Dr. Dhater Al Sawwaf, are to form the new AOSM executive council, which is to hold its 17th session at AOSM headquarters in Amman next April.

The general assembly, it was decided, will meet again in September, 1984 also in Amman. The meeting was attended by delegations representing 15 Arab countries in addition to the AOSM team.

Bilad Al Sham congress concluded

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said the main target behind the idea of Bilad Al Sham congresses is to "enrich our modern drive with the lessons and provisions derived from past experience and history."

Commenting on the outcome of the fourth such congress, which concluded its five-day session Thursday, the Prince said the recent congress was the richest in content so far.

The conference has decided to form a special committee for translation and classification of information on agriculture, municipal administration, geography and archaeological aspects of the era, Prince Hassan added.

The congress has enabled us to form a perception of these topics.

embodied in the issuing of eight volumes, the last of which was on the topic approached during the Damascus University congress.

The Prince pointed out that the "collected works" now form the basis of a highly-specialised study by an editorial board, which will be international in composition, as a result of the intensified congress activity. The board will comprise thinkers from 16 countries, the Prince said.

Cooperation with leading universities and libraries in the world

will hopefully render handy all the scientific information on the history of Bilad Al Sham for those interested in the region's history, Prince Hassan added.

Arab universities and schools will certainly benefit a great deal from the research carried out, and this will in turn help promote common Arab understanding of old and modern issues, the Prince said.

Thursday morning, the participants were guests of honour at a luncheon given by Prince Hassan

DOCTOR ADNAN HADIDI

Director of Antiquities sadly announces the death of his dear father

JUDGE ABDUL KARIM HADIDI

Dr. Hadidi will observe a mourning period of one week, and will accept condolences at his home for three days starting Saturday, Oct. 22.

May his soul rest in peace

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Jordan Times

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666265

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Spode



Jordan Times

Al-Istiqbal Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
Established 1975
الاستقبال يومية سياسية عربية منشورة بالإنجليزية من المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية

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Board of Directors: JUMA' A HAMMAD, RAJA ELISSA, MOHAMMAD AMAD, MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Editor: GEORGE S. HAWATMEH
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The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday

Al Ra'i: Reagan on wrong track again

IN HIS Thursday morning press conference, President Reagan reiterated his determination to continue working for the implementation of his initiative of Sept. 1, 1982, for solving the Palestinian problem; but the president made his intentions totally dependent on the settlement of the Lebanese crisis.

The president's new statement tries to imply that something had already been done on solving the problem, while the actual course of events since the announcement of the initiative proves that the U.S. administration has done practically nothing to shake the rejectionist Israeli attitude towards the initiative, and Israel's escalation of its settlement policies in the occupied Arab territories. The main target of such an Israeli drive was to create material obstacles in the path to a peaceful settlement of the area's conflict.

Moreover, the U.S. administration has rewarded such Israeli intransigence with a generous flow of arms, dollars and diplomatic backing. The only reward the U.S. received for its generosity was the loss of credibility in the region, and an overwhelming impression that the Reagan initiative had been nothing but a tactical manoeuvre.

Linking continuation of efforts for implementing the initiative to the solution of the Lebanese problem by the president only suggests that the U.S. administration considers the Lebanese crisis the focal issue in the region, which is contrary to all sound analysis which considers the Palestinian question the region's central issue. The eruption of the Lebanese volcano is only an outcome of the continuation of the Palestinian problem unsolved.

Sawt Al Shaab: All rests on U.S., Syria

POSTPONEMENT OF the Lebanese reconciliation conference restores the atmosphere of uncertainty that dominated the pre-ceasefire period, and undermines the present halt to hostilities.

Just as the Lebanese national dialogue has not been a purely Lebanese affair, and the Lebanese civil war was not, any delay in opening this dialogue will have been engineered by non-Lebanese forces. Foreign political factors, and foreign intervention and interests are still in control of Lebanon and its people. The fact that the disintegration of Lebanese society has created a reign of chaos makes it impossible for any single Lebanese faction to monopolise authority. Hence, the Lebanese are fearfully waiting for external factors to reconcile each other in order to enable them to start their own mini dialogue.

The U.S. indicates openly that Syria is impeding Lebanese national reconciliation to guarantee certain preconditions that would serve Syria and its allies' position at the expense of reconciliation. The U.S. also threatens to escalate its military role in support of the Lebanese central government if Syria backs away from its commitment not to impede the dialogue. Hence, the Syrian-U.S. reconciliation seems to have become a decisive factor in the inter-Lebanese reconciliation. Moreover, it is worth wondering whether such a U.S.-Syrian reconciliation would be part of a comprehensive settlement of the Middle East conflict.

Thursday

Al Ra'i: A constructive step

DISPUTES OVER a venue for the projected Lebanese national reconciliation conference should not deter leaders of the government and warring factions from pursuing efforts aimed at arranging the conference as soon as possible.

There is no time to be wasted over haggling about procedural matters because lives of innocent people are at stake. The conference, which was to have been convened at Beirut airport Thursday, has been postponed because the warring factions refused to attend for reasons of security. The Lebanese government has now postponed the convening of the conference and will find another venue suitable for all. This is to be regarded as a constructive step on the part of the government, and will no doubt help to consolidate the present ceasefire. Maintaining the ceasefire will be an encouraging sign and reflects all factions' genuine intentions of reaching a peaceful settlement.

Al Dustour: Campaign to undermine PLO

THE SERIES of statements issued by Palestinian groups based in Damascus are clearly designed to weaken the PLO and damage the reputation of its legitimate leaders. The enemies of the PLO's leadership have succeeded so far in causing confusion in the minds of the Palestinian people, but they most importantly have offered very valuable service to Israel which aims at destroying the Palestinian organisation as a whole. The campaigns launched by the Damascus-based groups against the legitimate leadership are designed to create hatred towards the Palestinians in the hearts of the Arab masses. This campaign is designed also to pave the way for the creation of an organisation to act as a substitute for the PLO and to serve Syria's purposes, and thus not to act in the interests of the Palestinian people.

Sawt Al Shaab: An attempt to split Arabs

ISRAELI REPORTS claim that President Reagan is about to announce new Middle East peace proposals based on cooperation between Israel and the so-called moderate Arab states. Israel says the U.S. national security council has already formulated the proposals which call for Jordan's participation in the U.S.-sponsored peace process. These reports, coupled with previous ones also circulated by Israel about the creation of a U.S.-backed Jordanian deployment forces to be employed in the Gulf region, expose the evil and sinister intentions of such campaigns directed against Jordan by the Zionist information media.

This campaign is being waged on the eve of the projected Arab summit in Riyadh with the purpose of undermining that summit and deepening inter-Arab differences. Any U.S.-proposals which ignore the Arab countries' role is bound to fail because they will be designed to drive a wedge between one Arab country and another and so create new splits in Arab ranks.

Of course Jordan will remain committed to defending other Arab states whenever called upon to do so, and the Gulf region is part of the Arab World. The forthcoming Arab summit ought to discuss ways of solving the Middle East issue and also averting all threats to the Gulf by deterring each Arab country's share in these efforts.

VIEW FROM AMERICA

Public fears do not govern American reality

By Franz Schurmann

SAN FRANCISCO — IT IS curious that the U.S. is getting re-involved militarily in various parts of the world just at a time the mood of the American people is opposed to foreign interventions as it ever has been.

Despite the recession which is supposedly ended, Americans have lived quite well these last years. Data shows a constant rise in personal income despite high level unemployment. The restaurants are full. And car buying has gone up again. We are a rich country and a rich people. Our complaints about poverty strike many foreigners as absurd. Even our poor live better than many people just a few metres across the border in Mexico. It is understandable that Americans want no wars. And especially there is strong opposition to getting involved in Vietnamese wars.

There are now Marines in

Lebanon, and U.S. "advisers" in El Salvador. U.S. soldiers, thousands of them, are on "manoeuvres" in Honduras. The U.S. is committing more planes to the defence of northern Japan. There are thousands of U.S. airmen and sailors in the Philippines as that country inexorably approaches its revolution (a Far Eastern Iran for the U.S.). And our "Rapid Deployment Force" is continually training for a deployment to defend the Gulf oil fields from Soviet attack or encroachment.

The contradiction between civil mood and military escalation is evident in the face and manner of our president. Look at this remarkably young looking man of 72. He loves to ride horses. He works a moderate day and then takes off for leisure like any businessman. He enjoys parties, as does his wife. And all who know him find him a likeable, loyal, and

thoroughly civil man. And there he is talking military buildup with a twinkle in his eye! One could easily imagine a suspicious Andropov or a shrewd Ogarkov plotting some military action that would mean bloodshed for one's own young men as well, but not Ronald Reagan.

Yet bit by bit American armed forces are being drawn into the Lebanon conflict. And even if we do not join the Salvadoran counter-insurgency effort by sending in our own troops, we are already deeply involved militarily in Central America.

When the TV shows news of Americans involved in combat situations, there is no patriotic propaganda. The emphasis is always on the dangers that Americans face. When the first Marines died, there was great coverage of their relatives weeping as the bodies were

returned. Congress reflects this mood as it augurises over the deepening involvement in the Middle East and Latin America.

Yet it would be a mistake to think that the anchor that pulls the ship of American foreign policy back is necessarily going to slow down this creeping U.S. involvement abroad. Despite all the confusion and silliness which so often pervades U.S. foreign policy, there is a power there which non-Americans must not ignore.

Consider the Middle East. There is a U.S. foreign policy, and it has been quite consistent in principle if not in execution these last 40 years. It rests on three bases:

- (1) Resolve to keep the Russians out.
- (2) To assure unimpeded access to oil sources, and
- (3) To prevent any single power from dominating the

Middle East.

Despite the U.S. link to Israel, supporting Israel has never been the bottom-line aim of U.S. foreign policy. When domestic forces have pressed for greater support of Israel, Washington has mainly just paid out more money and sent more arms.

But what is driving us deeper into foreign involvements now is, in fact, fear of the Russians, fear that instability such as that arising from the Iran-Iraq war could impede access to oil, and fear that some power other than the U.S. could begin calling the shots in the Middle East (candidates include Syria, Libya, Israel, and the French).

Despite the enormous desire on the part of ordinary Americans to enjoy their good lives, this sentiment will not make the U.S. pull out. The U.S. is now in the Middle East. And it is back in Central America.

The key question is: What will happen if American losses begin to rise beyond the few we have sustained in Lebanon?

It would be dangerous for any power in the Middle East to assume that domestic U.S. opposition to further involvement in the Middle East would prevent the Reagan administration from moving too far. Mr. Reagan is a cautious man and presumably hopes for a peaceful 1984 so he can get re-elected. On the other hand, the creeping U.S. involvement is a powerful force which cannot easily be changed.

Like ancient Rome which became an empire without wanting to be, so the U.S. is a global and imperial power. That reality must not be forgotten, even though Americans are provincial and almost unanimously hate any kind of imperial role.

Carter: Marines' engagement in Lebanon fighting is a mistake

Following is the full text of an interview given by former U.S. President Jimmy Carter to Saudi Arab News daily. Interviewer Magda Abu Fadil met the former president in his Atlanta, Georgia office last weekend.

Q: What are your views on the U.S. involvement in Lebanon, and would you have acted differently as president? Is there a Vietnam potential?

A: I've always tried to avoid the question "what would you have done if you had been president?" because as a private citizen, away from government, I don't have the access to the breadth of information and advice that I had as president. But I think it's a mistake for our military forces to be actually engaged in combat. And my own preference would be to have peace maintained and a ceasefire agreement perpetuated with a more neutral force if this more neutral force can act and carry out the functions of the present peacekeeping forces. The current influence of our country should continue to be exerted to get all foreign troops out of Lebanon.

In my judgment, we've pursued this goal with an inadequate degree of sustained enthusiasm and commitment. But we should not be satisfied with the partial withdrawal of Israeli troops.

Q: Whom would you consider to be neutral enough?

A: There are two options: one is a United Nations force. The other is a force made up of countries that are mutually acceptable to all parties, including Scandinavian troops, or Indian troops, or perhaps from Pakistan. It's not for me to prescribe which of these neutral forces would be acceptable. But they would obviously have to satisfy the elements who are now concentrated there — all forces within Lebanon: Israel, certainly Syria, the Lebanese government, possibly the Druze leaders, and to a much lesser and appreciable degree, perhaps the Palestinians.

Q: How do you rate the Reagan performance in the Middle East in general, and in Lebanon in particular?

A: His ultimate goals there are very compatible with my own. But the consistency of America's efforts to find a mutually agreeable solution and to hold down the prospects for combat have been inadequate in my judgment. Under Presidents Ford, Nixon and me, either through Secretaries of State Kissinger, Vance, Muskie, or through my own direct effort, there was a constant major commitment of our nation's influence, to alleviate tension and to search for a way to realise Palestinian ambitions and to preserve the security of Israel. I don't believe that this has been as deep and consistent a commitment on the part of the Reagan administration.

Q: Won't the upcoming elections have an impact?

A: Yes, I think that's predictable and disturbing. There were some allegations made that the Israeli invasion of Lebanon was tacitly approved by officials of the Reagan administration. I doubt if President Reagan himself was personally involved in this. But what concerns me about the upcoming year is that because of political circumstances in our country, our government's already inadequate commitment will be immense.

Q: If you had been president, would you have acted differently regarding the Middle East?

A: There needs to be someone of the stature of a president or a secretary of state, specifically charged with the responsibility of negotiating with all those involved. There was a concerted effort on one occasion, mounted by Secretary Shultz and Philip Habib and others, to work out a potential

withdrawal agreement between Israel and Lebanon.

But, unfortunately, this completely excluded Syria and subsequently proved to be fatally defective. So, my own inclination would be as it was when I was president, to let the world know, and let the people of my country know, and to let those involved in the Mideast disputes know that our country was unequivocally committed at the highest possible level to a sustained effort to alleviate tension and work toward peace and a permanent solution in the Mideast.

Q: The Camp David agreement is at best flatering. Do you see a prospect for its revival, or has it run its course?

A: In my judgment, the principles expressed in the Camp David agreement, repeated in President Reagan's proposal of last September, are the basic elements for future agreement. I don't know of any alternative to the one. The King Fahd proposals and the Fez statement go a long way toward accommodation with the Camp David principles and the Reagan proposal of last September. So, some progress in changing people's attitudes has already been evident. That process needs to be continued.

The maintenance of the status quo in negotiations, I think, is working counter to the prospects for future success, because of action of the Israeli government is taking in the occupied territories.

Q: The Reagan administration has changed its policy toward the settlements calling them merely a hindrance to peace. Are they illegal?

A: I've always categorised the settlements in occupied territories — the same as all my predecessors in the White House — as being both illegal and an obstacle.

Q: Do you hold the Reagan administration responsible for the present stagnation of the peace efforts in the Middle East?

A: No, I think there's enough responsibility or blame to go around to a lot of other people: The Israelis, the Jordanians, the Palestinian leaders, the Syrians and others in the Arab community have either been reluctant or timid in making bold proposals of a constructive nature. I certainly wouldn't attempt to blame President Reagan or the administration for the lack of progress.

Q: You initially supported the Reagan plan (of Sept. 1). Do you think it is still alive? And what needs to be done to put it back on course?

A: It's still alive to the extent of its being the basis for people to consider, for future progress. It's not the only proposal on the table for consideration. The Camp David documents, signed by Egypt, Israel and us, the withdrawal agreement between Israel and Lebanon, the Fez statement, representing the consensus at that time for Arab leaders — all those efforts are constructive in nature. They all provide a basis on which progress can be made. And, as one quite interested in the future of Middle East — an interest I will maintain the rest of my life — I see those factors as an incremental step toward an ultimate solution. Obviously, there are many other factors of a negative character, notably the continued occupation by Israel of other lands and the presence of foreign troops from Syria in Lebanon, and the lack of stability among the Lebanese people themselves.

I don't think any of those proposals are "dead". They're there to be considered by well-meaning people who want each nation in the Middle East to be recognised, to be secure and who want the Palestinian legitimate rights to be honoured.

Q: Could King Hussein and the PLO have come forward without too much damage to their respective positions?

A: I don't think they would have had too much damage because they could have come forward with the provision that President Reagan carry out his commitment to stop the settlements. This would have demonstrated to the world that the Arab community, with the approval of King Hussein and the PLO, were willing to negotiate. But with the rejection of President Reagan's offer, it put the onus of obstructionism on King Hussein and the PLO, and to some lesser degree, on the Arab community.

They would have had nothing to lose, because it would have been clearly stated that we will come forward and negotiate when President Reagan fulfils his promise to stop this settlement activity on the West Bank.

Q: You were instrumental in the development of the Rapid Deployment Force, now called Central Command. Do you really believe that it can serve the purpose for which it was created in the Gulf, and are you aware of bilateral arrangements with states there for its deployment in case of emergency?

A: I don't think I want to comment on specific military plans, some of which are quite confidential in nature. But I believe — still believe — that when the stability of the Gulf is threatened, the United States has a responsibility, or even an obligation to contribute its influence to remove a threat.

It's good for us, the Egyptians, Oman, the Saudis to work out a mutually acceptable understanding without unwarranted American intrusion in the area, which would provide for our common defence and security. There's always a potential threat from the Soviet Union, which I felt especially in the last year of my term, when the Soviets have just invaded Afghanistan.

Q: How can the United States help end the Iran-Iraq war? Do you see a danger of its spilling over in the region, or drawing in the big powers if it continues?

A: Our own interests now are

the same as when I was in office. It would be better for the region if the war was over. We haven't taken any position of support for either Iran or Iraq. My own inclination would be to see that the former recognised borders return as a boundary between the two countries and invading forces from both countries withdraw completely from other territory.

I think, however, that the influence of Syria and others on Iran, and of powerful voices, like those of Saudi Arabia can be added in both sides to encourage a reduction in hostility and bloodshed. It's a destabilising factor and it's potentially an explosion that could involve the other Gulf countries.

Q: Is the current administration doing enough?

A: Because of Iraq's decision, we do not have diplomatic relations with that country. I attempted several times to establish diplomatic relations with Iraq, and there's a highly publicised strain between the U.S. and Iraq, so our influence in either one of those countries is minimal, compared with the influence Syria, Saudi Arabia and other countries.

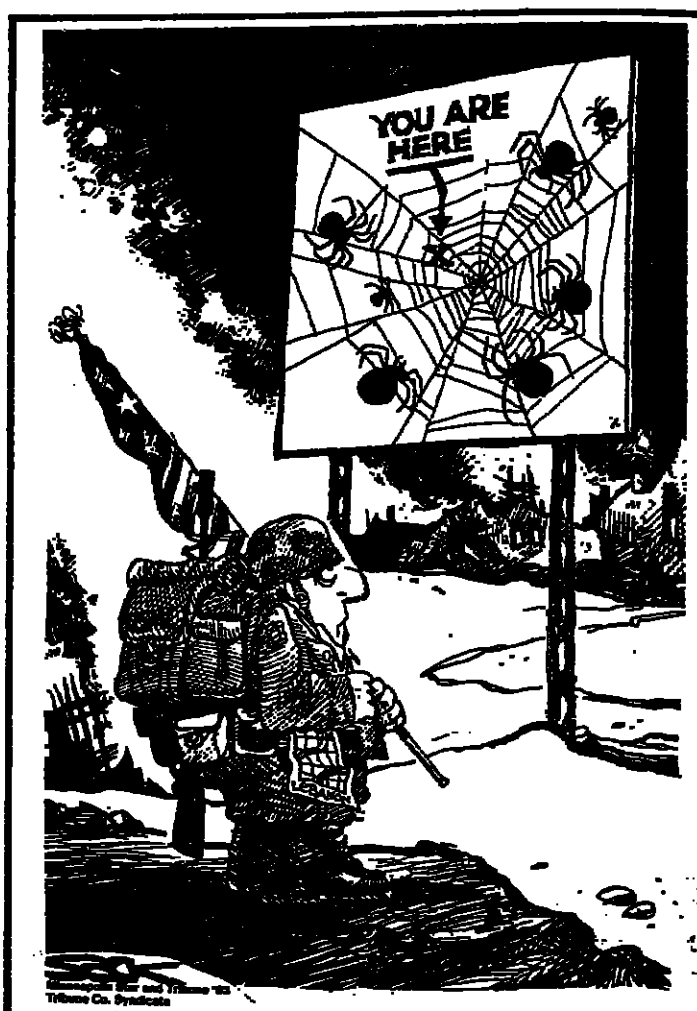
Q: You've expressed a key interest in the Palestinians over the years. You often said they acted in a way that ran against their own interests. What would you have liked to see them do?

A: The plight of the Palestinians in the occupied territories, West Bank and Gaza, has been exacerbated in recent years. I think there are elements within the Camp David agreement that would have greatly improved the status of the Palestinians in the occupied territories — to negotiate with Jordan, Israel and Egypt — and to have a unilateral right to approve or disapprove the final status in a referendum, to their representatives.

Also, it would be very beneficial if the Palestinian leaders through some carefully worded statement would recognise Israel's right to exist and just state again that the United Nations resolutions that have been passed apply to the search for peace.

Some of the Palestinian leaders with whom I've met can see this as a possibility. Under those circumstances, our country could deal directly with Palestinian community. This has been a difficult thing for them.

It would have been, and still would be, to their benefit to become actively involved.



CIA eager to unite Nicaraguan contras

By Linda Drucker
Reuter

TEGUCIGALPA — Despite U.S. attempts to unite them, the four major insurgent groups fighting the left-wing government in Nicaragua remain sharply divided by personal rivalries and mistrust, rebel leaders and diplomats say.

According to Western diplomatic sources, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has been pressing for a united front led by the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), the biggest of the combat groups.

Insurgent leaders say three abortive attempts have recently been made to unite the FDN with the Nicaraguan Democratic Union (UDN), the Visura Organisation of Indians from the country's Atlantic coast, and former Nicaraguan Defence Minister Eden Pastora's Revolutionary Democratic Alliance (ARDE).

But Visura chief Steadman Fagot told Reuters: "There is absolutely no military coordination between the groups. The leaders are putting personal and organisational interests above the interests of the (Nicaraguan) nation."

U.S.-sponsored unity moves came against the background of sharply increased military pressure on the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN), with FDN forces striking in the north from bases in Honduras and ARDE guerrillas attacking from Costa Rica in the south.

The main obstacle to a united front has been Mr. Pastora's insistence that the FDN purge its ranks of former members of the late Nicaraguan National Guard.

Thousands of guardsmen fled to Honduras in 1979 after their civil war defeat by a broad-based alliance led by the Sandinistas. The FDN has rejected Mr. Pastora's demand because former guardsmen occupy key positions in the command structure and their removal would cripple the military effectiveness of the organisation. All six members of the FDN general staff served with Somoza's forces.

While Mr. Pastora objects to the ex-guardsmen in the FDN, some FDN leaders feel that Mr.

Pastora is ideologically a suspect. "He has spoken admiringly of (Cuban leader Fidel) Castro and even (Libyan leader Muammar) Qadhafi too many times for me to feel comfortable with him," FDN leader Enrique Bermudez said in an interview with Reuters.

The FDN's strength is estimated at between 7,000 and 10,000 men, while Mr. Pastora claims to have 2,700 under his command in the jungles of the frontier region between Costa Rica and southern Nicaragua. Western experts consider his claim exaggerated.

Divisions and acrimonious disputes are not restricted to the FDN and ARDE.

A recent insurgent offensive code-named "operation marathon" was partly designed to demonstrate military cooperation between the FDN and the small UDN, an organisation of some 200 fighters.

But instead, the operation culminated in bitter recriminations and charges by UDN chief Fernando "El Negro" Chamorro that the FDN had asked the Honduran army to disarm 150 UDN troops and detain them in a camp near the frontier.

The row flared only a few weeks after UDN leaders said unification with the FDN was imminent. Now, Mr. Chamorro is considering rejoining Mr. Pastora's ARDE, from which he split eight months ago, according to UDN spokesman Eduardo Sacasa.

UDN leaders insist that the FDN is trying to absorb their organisation, a claim reflecting the smaller groups' reluctance to give up their autonomy.

Guerrilla sources say, however, that the Honduran army moved because UDN fighters struck at the Nicaraguan border post of El Espino, violating a tacit understanding that such attacks could paralyse transport and commerce throughout Central America. Honduras displeasure with the UDN was heightened when a U.S. television crew filmed UDN men using Honduran army trenches during an anti-Sandinista operation, the sources added. The government has persistently denied any cooperation between the army and insurgent forces operating from Honduran territory.



لجنة التحرير



Talking straight Marwan Muasher

By Cemil Eren

What we today understand as an art movement, began in Jordan during the first years of the twentieth century, was introduced by foreigners living in Jordan. George Aleef (Russian), Armando (Italian), Jack Girdlestone (English), Omar Omsi (Lebanese) and Ziyad Suleiman (Turkish) were the pioneers.

If we reach back to ancient sources, we must mention Madaba and Qasr Amra. Byzantine mosaics developed in Madaba where the most beautiful of mosaics were made. Madaba became a school of mosaic art and in the small town hundreds of mosaics are scattered among the foundations of present buildings — one of these mosaics is the renowned map of Palestine.

A different kind of vacation

Last month I was on vacation. I went to the United States, and spent most of the time at the place where I went to school.

Needless to say, I have been on vacation several times before (although they always seem less than one's heart would desire). This one, though, had a special beat to it, and even before it started, presented me with thoughts and feelings no other one did before.

It was different in two senses. It was the first that I took after graduating from college and being initiated into life's full-time workers club. Of course, I've had many vacations while in school. I suppose it is very difficult to speak against a vacation, but somehow I never felt tired enough to warrant a vacation then. Don't get me wrong, I've always enjoyed one anyway. This time, however, I really looked forward to this particular one. In a sense, I felt that school vacations were given, awarded to you, while now, I was finally earning my own. Somehow the feeling makes the vacation more precious, and more enjoyable.

The other sense in which this vacation was different was that it was the first time that I was to return to the United States after I left it. More importantly, it was the first time that I was to go back in person (for I did go back many times in my mind), to a culture I grew in for a long time, a life-style that once became largely my own, and to people with whom I shared some close friendships.

I had a lot of mixed feelings about going back. For after leaving that culture more than a year ago, I fought hard (and still do) to adjust back to life here and understand it better. People tend to accuse individuals as myself as "Westernised" or "brainwashed". Personally, I just looked at the transformation as natural, mind-opening, one that allows you to think about different sets of values

and helps you decide where you stand on issues.

At any rate, I made a lot of progress this past year, and got to the point where I started not only to feel comfortable with my own society, but to, once again, enjoy several of its aspects. To go back to the States once again, and so soon, was to step onto a frozen lake: You never know whether the ice is strong enough to hold you. It was to be a test of how well I have adjusted or not adjusted. I was not sure whether wounds would be reopened, memories relieved, or the past revisited. The greatest fear I had was that the experience of going back would thwart my efforts at adjusting. But something from within told me that I had to go back. I had to know where I stood, and settle forever the ongoing battle in my mind.

The vacation part of it was, to borrow from the American Miller's beer commercial, everything I wanted from a vacation, and less.

I saw so many old friends that I did not expect to see, even some that I did not want to see. I must have eaten enough Big Macs to last me for a century. Going around in blue jeans and tennis shoes and doing away with work's formal clothes was an immense pleasure. I had the chance of enjoying the sophistication and fast pace of New York City, the relaxed atmosphere of California, and the friendliness and down-to-earthness of a Hoosier Midwest that so many people cut down, but one that provided me with some beautiful memories and experience during my college days that I will always cherish. Something that I always liked about Americans is that despite their tremendous wealth and power as a nation, they are really simple, down-to-earth people. I even attended a football match, one of my true pleasures, at my Alma Mater, and enjoyed it thoroughly despite a sound beating by a strong Notre Dame team. Even

listening to Howard Cosell's monotonous voice on Monday Night Football was nice. This is in addition to several other pleasures like enjoying a good meal of prime rib steak (not to forget the baked potatoes), watching the CBS Evening News with Dan Rather (where I had the chance to once again watch how news is professionally reported), and enjoying the greenery and trees that greet you everywhere. In short, I witnessed again the American culture in all its diversity, or at least in the diversity that appealed to my taste.

The important thing, though, is this: I did witness it all again, but I did not relive it. There was no reminiscing, no longing for the old times, no living in the past. I enjoyed my stay there tremendously, but did not feel I have to be there to be happy. Life after the United States was suddenly not only pos-

sible, but enjoyable as well. I saw all my friends there, and accepted them as they are, but did not feel the change that occurred to them and me necessarily presented a barrier, or that I wished for the same relationship that existed between us before. I saw and lived in the culture, and enjoyed many things in it that I have always enjoyed, but did not feel that culture is the only source from which satisfaction can be drawn.

I enjoyed the States for the people and the country that it is, not for the memories that it was. I felt that what I had started building in my country was firmer than I thought, that beyond the commitment, there was now a need, indeed a want, to be in Jordan.

For the first time, I saw the States from the point of view of an outsider who for a long time was an insider. As such, I had a good

understanding and acceptance of the American culture, with the added advantage of having stepped out, and then come back to have a fresh, and may be, more objective look.

It is kind of scary, because the experience makes you feel older. Suddenly, I was not the student that I left a year ago. That era seemed ages ago. I did not exactly regret the distance, either. I felt there are so many things to look forward to, that there was no need anymore to look back at the past for security or encouragement.

These can and do lay in the present, and certainly in the future.

The United States was just as nice as it always looked to me, but in a different sense and a different light. The realisation of these thoughts and the feelings this trip gave me provided me with the best vacation I have ever had. It was, indeed, different.

Jordanian paintings reflect the beauty of their landscape

The view from Mount Nebo is an impressive as its mosaics. And if you could fly like a dove down towards the Dead Sea, swooping along each of the heights, you might wonder what this landscape has contributed to Jordanian painting.

The same thoughts haunted me as we stopped to ask a bedouin the direction to Qasr Amra. What has this endless desert given to Jordanian painting? A flat expanse as far as the eye can see. Yellows, light purples in the middle of colours that shift between different shades of burned earth, tracks that from time to time look like a road merge with each other. As

you hunt for the road through a dust storm you come across a construction crew opening roads in the middle of the desert like airport runways. And again the question runs through your head as you ponder the brickred shades that disappear on the horizon.

Here and there the harmony of the desert is broken by the appearance of Qasr Al Kharranah or Azrak in the midst of the desert's infinite, flat expanse. This striking appearance of yellow, coffee colours that from time to time turn to purples or glow red is found in the studio of Princess Wijdan. These shades are all there on her great canvases, two metres long, she

has prepared, combed into the pigments of the thick paint. From the midst of shimmering yellows suddenly rises up before you without warning the castle of Ajloun.

At first glance you might say that the work of Princess Wijdan is non-figurative, and you might imagine a soft personality behind a painting which has developed from waves of colour. That is not the case. You can sense the strong character of Princess Wijdan in the separation of individual colours. A personality like the desert itself, soft in appearance but demanding discipline. In addition, the texture Princess Wijdan gives to the paint by combing renders this

harshness. Her painting reflects the man of the desert, the sturdiness of the Arab character. And in another painting there is the blinding light of the desert sun. Wave upon wave of the burning sun's flames come towards you. Another painting gives the desert spring. Unbelievable colours in wild flowers. And then evening. The colours have turned purple. grey. The severity of the light has diminished. Shades of purples that start with cyclamen, pass through lilac then stretch to dark purple as the sky rises above a high minaret. A barely perceptible Azrak rises in the center of a painting that shades from very bright to ochre

yellow. Suhail Bisharat spreads coffee on paper and creates a painting. These are not paintings left to the chance patterns of the fortuneteller's coffee. After spreading the coffee on the paper in areas he has selected, he uses fine brushes to shape and refine the delicate grains. Coffee is only the medium. The colour is brown, ranging in all its hues from the lightest to the darkest shades. He paints, portraits, the faces of men and women, Arab faces. Joyous and miserable with black eyes and penetrating expressions. The background is the desert, the images of the Jordanian landscape. Here

and there the sand has been blown away and dark shaded rocks have emerged from below. Stains at different scales, small grains of sand and massive rocks.

Alli Jabr, was frequently mentioned during my visit to Amman but regrettably there was no opportunity to meet him as he was abroad at the time. Suhail Bisharat showed me two of his portraits from his own collection. They impressed me. Both were unforgettable, realistic, drawn in pastels. And then there was his work in the collection of the Jordan National Gallery, one diptych of Ma'an, one triptych of Aqaba, both masterful combinations of

light and love for the texture of Jordanian living space.

Filming the exhibition

Fuad Mim's work also impressed me. He came to see us to discuss filming a programme on the Turkish exhibition. This modest, infinitely quiet man paid no attention to his fame in Jordan and simply said, "I paint, too". He was one of the people I had wanted to meet. One evening he invited me to his house. The house and all its walls were crammed with paintings. And most of the paintings were not his. Many were by Aziz Amoura. Aziz Amoura is a talented Jordanian painter who has been living abroad.

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SPORTS

Egypt wins chess tournament

AMMAN (Petra) — His Highness Prince Mohammad Thursday presented the Chess Championship Cup to the visiting Egyptian team after winning the friendly matches played against the Jordanian team. The presentation took place during a dinner party given Thursday at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel to honour the members of the Egyptian team. The party was attended by members of the two teams and members of the Royal Jordanian Chess Federation.

Kuwait beats Jordan in Olympic soccer

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Kuwait defeated Jordan 2-0 in the second leg of the Asian Group One Olympic soccer qualifying match on Friday afternoon at Amman's Sports City stadium.

Kuwait's victory consolidated their position in the group and preserved their lead with 7 points. For Jordan, defeat meant staying bottom of the group with one point gained from their draw with Qatar last Friday. The match was Jordan's last in the group and signalled the end of their Olympic trail.

The scoreline was not a true reflection of the match because, although Kuwait won, the game was evenly balanced with Jordan's luck going against them.

The match started at a very fast pace with both teams attacking as soon as they had possession of the ball.

Jordan looked the most likely to score in the first twenty minutes. In the 13th minute, Issam Al Tally picked up a pass from Khaled Abu Al Awad in the penalty area with only Kuwait's goalkeeper Adam Murjan to face. But he panicked and kicked the ball straight into Murjan's hands.

Jordan kept up the pressure with more attacks but were at times unlucky and had difficulties in finding the back of the net. Ibrahim Sa'adeh for Jordan had the crowd on their feet in the 22nd minute when his left foot

shot hit the corner of the goal's woodwork. Bassem Murad picked up the rebound but could only get a weak shot at goal which was comfortably held by Murjan.

Sa'adeh had a second chance two minutes later with a header that was just wide of goal.

Following Jordan's consecutive attempts the game settled down to a mediocre pace.

And then Kuwait struck with Abdul Aziz Al Anbari scoring the first goal in the 38th minute.

Al Anbari, who was unmarked, received a pass at the edge of the penalty area, found his way through the box to produce a cleanly struck goal into the middle of the net catching Jordan's defence having a nap and gave Milad Abassi no chance of saving the goal.

Following the goal, Kuwait's confidence grew and they attacked more and displayed the skills that made them World Cup finalists last year. Meanwhile Jordan's game slowed down and could not take advantage of their presence in Kuwait's penalty area. Halftime ended 1-0 in Kuwait's favour.

Kuwait started the 2nd half at full speed and concentrated the play in Jordan's half of the field.

A very well built attack down the right wing ended in Kuwait scoring their second goal.

Mouayad hit a high cross from the right corner towards Jordan's goal and found the toll Fathi Kameel waiting at the far side of the goal to head in the winner in the 5th minute of the second half.

After securing the second goal, Kuwait played a defensive game, packing their defence and on few occasions coming out to attack.

In the meantime, Jordan did not surrender, driving with all their might towards the Kuwaiti goal. But they found the defence extremely difficult to penetrate and tried their luck at some long shots from outside the penalty area but could not improve the scoreline.

Kuwait's goalie denied Jordan a consolation when he saved a brilliantly struck free kick by Sa'adeh 5 metres from outside the penalty box.

In the dying minutes of the game, Kuwait attacked extremely well with accurate passing and swift running. They managed to get to the goal but Milad Abassi must have thought that two goals in his net were enough and saved a few good shots.

The match was attended by Minister of Culture and Youth Ma'an Abu Nowar, Minister of Agriculture Marwan Dudia, Minister of Justice Ahmad Al Tarawneh, and the President of Kuwait Football Federation Sheikh Ahmad Al Hmoud.

Pakistan retains world squash title

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (R) — Pakistan retained their world team squash title here Thursday night when they beat England 3-0 to end the championships without dropping a game.

The Pakistanis, spearheaded by Jahangir Khan and Qamar Zaman, the world's number one and number two respectively, were always favourites to win.

On Thursday night Jahangir dropped seven points in the third game against Hiddy Jahan but said he was not worried.

"I had two games in hand so I could have come back in the fourth," he said.

"But I do not like to lose when I am playing for my country. It puts pressure on the other players if I lose. In the individual championships it is not so important if I don't win."

However, there was little danger that Jahangir would lose. Hiddy tried to outdrive him and paid the penalty by making too many unforced errors which found the tin.

Earlier Qamar Zaman accounted for Gawan Briers 9-3, 10-8, 1-9, 9-3.

The Englishman struck a purple patch in the latter part of the second game when he saved game ball before losing 10-8.

Briers carried on in the same vein in the third game forcing seven errors and five hits to the tin from Qamar. Briers took the game 9-1 but could not sustain his dominance as he crashed 9-3 in the next.

Phil Kenyon offered little resistance to Pakistan number three Magsood Ahmed, losing 9-2, 9-1, 9-4.

In the play-off for third and fourth positions Australia beat Egypt 2-1 in a contest which featured fighting comebacks by Australians Dean Williams and Ross Thorne.

Williams was two games and 3-6 down to Ahmed Safwat but recovered to win 3-9, 0-9, 9-6, 10-9, 9-1. The Australian survived match ball in the fourth game when he was down 1-8 but

came back to win the game 10-9. By the time the fifth was played, Safwat's fight had disappeared and he won only one point.

Thorne had a similar match against Magdi Saad. The Australian was two games down and stretched to the limit but fought back superbly to take the match 5-9, 4-9, 10-9, 9-2, 9-0.

United faces stern test in English soccer league

LONDON (R) — Leaders Manchester United cannot expect any favours from struggling Sunderland on Saturday when they try to consolidate their one point advantage in the English first division.

United jumped from fourth place last week to depose West Ham of the leadership following their 3-0 demolition of West Bromwich.

But United, with their confidence sky-high following an impressive 2-1 European Cup Winners' Cup win over Spartak Varna in Bulgaria on Wednesday, will be wise to approach Sunderland with caution.

Alan Durban's side — hovering sixth from bottom — are unbeaten in four matches and stunned champions Liverpool earlier this month when they won 1-0 at Anfield.

"We beat Liverpool after they had played a European Cup match in midweek and I am hoping the pattern repeats itself," said Durban, who will field an unchanged line up.

But United are almost certain to be without former Dutch midfielder international Arnold Muhren, who injured a calf muscle in Bulgaria, and faces a late fitness test. Remi Moses is standing by to deputise.

A host of clubs are poised to take over at the top should United slip up at Roker Park.

West Ham, still dazed by the 3-1 home defeat by Liverpool which toppled them last week, play hosts to Norwich hoping to stop the rot quickly and bounce back on the leadership trail.

But like Sunderland, Norwich are no soft-option, and hit back from 3-0 down to draw 3-3 with Manchester United three weeks ago.

With fifth-placed Liverpool taking on third-placed Queen's Park Rangers on the London side's artificial pitch, the greatest threat to United's supremacy is posed by Southampton.

The south-coast side missed out on a chance to take the lead last week.

SALE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ministry of Education/ The Execution Committee of the MOE 2 five projects, announces the desire of selling the following:-

First Construction equipment and machinery.

Item No.	Description	Qty	Site
1.	Lift for materials (Loose parts/unassembled)	2	Deir Alla Site
2.	Concrete Mixer "Belter"	1	"
3.	Concrete Mixer "Benford"	2	"
4.	Concrete Mixer "Robroy"	1	"
5.	Generator "Unilec"	1	"
6.	Generator "John Deer"	1	"
7.	Dumper "Boncar"	2	"
8.	Compactor "Wacker"	2	"
9.	Compactor "Rober"	2	"
10.	Mobile crane "Selming"	1	"
11.	Mobile concrete pump "Mercedes"	1	Site Huson
12.	Truck "Mercedes"	1	"
13.	Pick-up (GMC)	1	"
14.	Back loader (JCB)	1	"
15.	Tranz Mixer (Mercedes)	2	"
16.	Pick-up (scrap)	1	"
17.	Dumper (scrap)	1	"
18.	Generator	1	"
19.	Dumper (Boncar)	2	"
20.	Maintenance lorry	1	"
21.	Lift for materials (Loose parts/unassembled)	1	"
22.	Batching plant (Elba) (Loose parts/unassembled)	2	"
23.	Jay compressor	1	"
24.	Mercedes water tank	1	"
25.	Generator (Allis)	1	"
26.	Tower crane (Loose parts/unassembled)	1	"
27.	Mobile crane (grove)	1	Zarqa Community College Site
28.	Generator	1	"
29.	Concrete Mixer (Benford)	3	"
30.	Tower crane	1	"
31.	Dumper (scrap)	2	"
32.	Long law trailer	1	"
33.	Short law trailer	1	"
34.	Tranz Mixer (Mercedes)	1	"
35.	Batching plant (Elba) (Loose parts/unassembled)	2	"
36.	Mobile crane (Grove)	1	"
37.	Generator	1	"
38.	Mercedes truck	2	"
39.	Generator	1	"
40.	Compactor	2	"
41.	VW Mini bus Model 1974	1	Ministry of Education Site
42.	Form work materials and equipment		Zarqa Comm. College Sites & Deir Alla Site
43.	Electrical Materials		Ministry of Education Site (Projects Directorate)

All these equipment and machinery are under the temporary entrance situation and duty unpaid except the VW Mini Bus No. 114166 which has a private license number plate.

Those who are interested in buying are requested to present their offers in a sealed envelope to: Projects Directorate, Ministry of Education, P.O. Box 9640, Amman, Tel. No. 669181. Latest at 2:00 p.m. of Thursday Nov. 11, 1983.

Second: Household furniture: located at Irbid Education Directorate/ Services Division where it can be inspected. Offers to be presented in a sealed envelope to the same division latest at 2:00 p.m. of Thursday Nov. 11, 1983.

Third: Office furniture located in Amman. Those interested in buying are requested to contact the Chief Clerk at Projects Directorate/ Ministry of Education, P.O. Box 9640 Amman, Tel. 669181 for inspection and presentation of their offers in a sealed envelope latest at 2:00 p.m. of Thursday Nov. 11, 1983.

Remarks

1. Buyer should inspect the equipment and furniture before presenting his offer.
2. Buyer should present a certified check equal to 5 per cent of the total value of the equipment and furniture he intends to buy as a bid bond.
3. Advertising costs will be borne by the awarded buyer.

Chairman of the Execution Committee
Secretary General
Dr. A. Arabiat.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Mr. Emiliios Savvides, export manager of PATTICHIS, a Cypriot company, producers of the well known insecticide EASY KILL and other chemicals, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics, will be staying at the Grand Palace Hotel in Amman, on Sunday and Monday Oct. 23 and 24 so as to receive all those concerned with this company's products.

THE BRITISH COUNCIL
المجلس الثقافي البريطاني

wishes to announce that the
PUBLIC DISCUSSION
on

"The Conservation of Historic Buildings"
under the chairmanship of
H.R.H. PRINCESS WIJDAN ALI
formerly scheduled for Sunday 23
October
has been postponed until
WEDNESDAY 30 NOVEMBER 1983

INDONESIAN TRADE PROMOTION
FAIR AT REGENCY PALACE HOTEL
SUNDAY OCTOBER 24, 1983

The Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia invites you to attend the Indonesian Trade Promotion Fair, at the Regency Palace Hotel, Amman on 24 to 26 October 1983 from 09.00 a.m. to 09.00 p.m.

Team of commercial representatives from Indonesian trade establishments and companies will be present to answer your enquiries.

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Tarek Aboudi

Ministry of Education
Curriculum Directorate
P.O. Box: 1930
Amman-JordanInvitation to
Tender for the Writing of English
Language Textbooks for the Compulsory
Stage

The Ministry of Education in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan invites all qualified and interested publishers to submit their tenders for the writing and production of the new English language textbooks for the 5th and 6th elementary classes and the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd preparatory classes, in accordance with the new curriculum set for those classes of this stage.

All agreement will be concluded to this effect within the framework of the following FOUR basic final terms (items) and conditions:

Item	Prospective Publisher (PP)	Ministry of Education (MOE)
1- Authorship	Provides two qualified authors.	Provides two co-authors.
2- Remuneration	is responsible for the remuneration of the two authors approved by (MOE) and for one of the two co-authors as well.	is responsible for the remuneration of only one co-author.
3- Rights	reserves all rights for a period of not more than three years.	owns, and retains, all rights beyond that period.
4- Sales and Royalty	Supplies MOE with the number of copies of each book the (MOE) requires, within that period, at a discount of not less than 25 per cent of the published price.	Pays to (PP) a royalty of not more than 10 per cent of the Jordanian published price for books printed and distributed to schools by (MOE), only in the first five years beyond that period.

Notes:

- 1- At least one of the prospective authors is expected to have:
 - a) written, or participated in writing, well-established textbooks for teaching English as a foreign language, preferably in the Arab World.
 - b) Taught English as a foreign language, preferably in the Arab World, for at least three years.
- 2- The publisher is expected to participate in training teachers in the use of the new course.
- 3- All tenders must be deposited in the Curriculum Directorate, Ministry of Education, P.O. Box: 1930, Amman, Jordan.

19.10.1983

(For) the Minister of Education
Director of the Curriculum
Directorate.

مكتبة امين

E.C. ministers to try to break deadlock

BRUSSELS (R) — European Community (E.C.) foreign ministers meet in Greece this weekend to review delicately-poised negotiations on the future of their deeply-troubled group and discuss the threat to world peace from several crisis areas.

Diplomats said worries over the financial future of the 10-nation bloc were expected to dominate informal talks from Saturday at the seaside resort of Vouliagmeni, near Athens.

Meeting without the scores of aides who crowd their formal sessions, the ministers will explore ways of breaking the deadlock in tough bargaining on reforming the group's finances, already short of cash and heading for deeper trouble before the year ends.

Community foreign, finance and farm ministers have held four sessions of formal talks since July, each attended by some 200 delegates, to put together a reform package.

But so far there has been no sign of a breakthrough to bridge wide differences in time for a reform plan to be adopted as planned at the community's Athens summit in December.

The diplomats said members remain far apart on ways to avert bankruptcy, with a \$540 million shortfall in the community's budget forecast by the end of the year. Britain, West Germany and the Netherlands want to see the group tighten its belt and strictly restrain farm spending, the main drain on its limited resources.

The other seven, while favouring some tighter spending, stand for a more expansionist policy to meet foreign competition and prepare for the early entry of Spain and Portugal into the community, they said.

The formal talks have also failed so far to find a means of reassessing financial contributions that would prevent new rows over Britain's budget refunds.

Japan liberalises economy

TOKYO (R) — Japan Friday announced new economic measures to expand consumer demand at home and open up its markets to foreign goods.

The package approved by the cabinet aimed at ensuring a growth rate of 3.4 per cent in the current fiscal year. At the same time it was designed to head off persistent foreign complaints about the inaccessibility of Japanese markets.

The major stimulus to demand came with cuts of 1,210 billion yen (\$5.2 billion) in income and local taxes. In addition the Bank of Japan cut its discount rate, which sets the pace for Japanese interest levels, by half a percentage point to five per cent.

On top of this, the government agreed to allocate 1,880 billion

yen (\$8.1 million) for public works.

The spur to imports was provided by a series of separate measures. Tariff cuts on 1,200 industrial products were timed for April, 1984, a year earlier than originally planned. And the semi-official Export-Import Bank was permitted to provide 20 billion yen (\$86 million) in loans to importers of manufactured products.

Until now the bank was allowed to finance only Japanese exports and raw material and energy imports.

Also approved was a scheme to provide importers with low-

interest short-term loans.

To attract foreign capital the government agreed to consider floating Japanese bonds in the United States and elsewhere abroad.

Another objective outlined in the programme was to increase the use of yen in international trading. To this end the government agreed to look at prospects of establishing a bankers' acceptance market under which banks would advance money for trade bills expressed in yen.

Government officials shied away from assessing the impact of the new measures on the domestic economy and the Japanese trade balance. Foreign experts were equally cautious.

But the Japanese government clearly hoped the import liberalisation steps would create a

good atmosphere for President Reagan's visit to Japan next month.

The United States has strongly pressed Japan to reduce its mighty trade surplus which some economists believe could go as high as \$30 billion this year.

Only this week, European Community foreign ministers expressed grave concern at the trade imbalance between Japan and the rest of the world.

The government programme left several questions unanswered. In particular there was no word on how the tax cuts would be financed at a time when the government is piling up a record budget deficit.

Some critics believed the money would be clawed back next year through indirect taxes, possibly after another general election.

Israel: The bubble bursts

By David Lennon

TEL AVIV: The economic crisis which has just come to a head in Israel has been brewing for more than a year.

It is largely the result of the government's inability to deal effectively with either of the economy's two main problems — the balance of payments deficit and a notoriously high rate of inflation.

The fact that the crisis appeared to peak just as the country was in the process of changing leaders is largely coincidental. Even if Mr. Menachem Begin had not decided to retire from the premiership, the crisis would have arrived.

But the prolonged hiatus while Mr. Yitzhak Shamir was being chosen as his successor gave the public the impression that no one was in charge of the ship of state, and more especially the economy. This precipitated a run on bank shares as Israelis tried to convert their savings into dollars.

The incident illustrated the need for urgent action to restore public confidence in the economy — and the cabinet decision to devalue the shekel by 23 per cent and increase the price of subsidised basic commodities is meant to be the first step on the road to recovery.

Other measures have still to take effect, including a planned budget cut of \$1 billion and an attempt to break out of the inflationary spiral.

The latter could prove a major political test, for a policy of wage indexation has long protected the Israeli workforce from the ravages of inflation and any unilateral attempt to de-link earnings could provoke strong resistance.

The performance of the Israeli economy over the past few years has been dismal. Gross National Product (GNP), which rose 5 per cent in 1981, was stagnant last year, while private consumption rose by 10 per cent in 1981 and 7 per cent in 1982.

Exports have been declining for

the past two years and imports have continued to rise.

The resulting trade deficits are being paid for by foreign loans on which the servicing and repayment costs will soon eat up Israel's annual foreign aid inflow.

Deficit worsens steadily

The balance of payments deficit is steadily worsening.

In 1981 the "civilian" deficit on current account amounted to \$2.2 billion; the following year it soared to \$3.2 billion and it is expected to reach \$4.3 billion by the end of 1983.

If the deficit caused by military spending is included, then the figures for the three years are: 1981 \$4.4 billion, 1982 \$4.7 billion and this year \$5.5 billion.

The policy of the treasury over the past 12 months was to set this problem aside while tackling inflation, which had been running at an annual rate of more than 100 per cent since 1980 and could reach 170 per cent this year.

The government tried to starve inflation by keeping increases in the price of basic commodities down to a level of 5 per cent a month, through heavy subsidisation.

At the same time, the shekel was also receiving support, being allowed to depreciate by no more than 5 per cent a month against the dollar.

Previously it had floated downwards to compensate fully for the inflation rate.

Indexation policy fails

This policy failed because it was isolated.

There was no parallel curb on domestic credit expansion nor any attempt to break the other major contributor to inflation, the fact that wages are automatically increased in line with the rise in the cost of living.

Every three months, 80 per cent of an Israeli's salary is au-

tomatically increased in line with the previous quarter's inflation.

This, plus wage increases negotiated annually, has meant that salaries have continued to keep pace with the rate of inflation.

Savings, pensions, welfare payments and loans are also indexed, so that it has proved impossible to break out of the inflationary circle.

The ill-fated attempt to "starve" inflation is estimated to have meant an additional \$500 million in government expenditure over the past 12 months.

The indirect cost has been even higher, notably the decline in exports, which had previously been one of Israel's success stories.

Mr. Yoram Aridor, the former finance minister, blamed the drop on recession in the Western economies.

The manufacturers association, representing Israel's employers, says that the artificial support of the shekel simply made exporting unprofitable.

Simultaneously, the exchange rate policy was making imports more attractive.

Israelis have long faced high taxes on imported consumer durables but in 1981 Mr. Aridor reduced taxes on consumer goods — and his cheap dollar policy the following year meant that these prices stayed down.

The resulting sustained spending spree astounded visitors: Israeli living standards seemed to be for ever rising yet the country was endemically debt dependent.

Foreign debts rocket

All this has led to increased foreign debt.

Overall debt — foreign debt less Israeli banking holdings abroad — was \$16.5 billion in 1980.

In 1981 it rose to \$18.2 billion and last year soared again, to \$20.9 billion.

In the first half of this year it grew by another \$5 billion.

The increase has led to que-

stions overseas about Israel's creditworthiness.

Even in the U.S., the country's main financial backer, the General Accounting Office expressed fears earlier this year about Israel's ability to repay its debts without increased American aid.

Nonetheless, Israel is well aware of the dangers of burgeoning debt: while in past years it has pressed Washington for ever larger sums in aid, this year it is asking for less — but it wants it all as a grant.

It is not clear whether Washington will agree, but such a step would allow Israel to halt the growth in its debts.

U.S. expresses unhappiness

Washington has been unhappy with Israel's economic policies.

During a summer visit to the U.S. capital, Mr. Yitzhak Shamir and Mr. Moshe Arens, the defence minister, were told in the bluntest terms by Mr. George Shultz, the secretary of state, that Israel must adopt a more realistic economic policy.

This lecture clearly had an impact. Mr. Shamir's very first action after being sworn in as prime minister was to call his cabinet into an all-night session.

Devaluation and subsidy cuts have been welcomed as a step in the right direction by most commentators here. But the government now faces a delicate task on the wages front.

Histadrut, the federation of trades unions, has warned that it will resist any unilateral attempt by the government to tamper with pay indexation.

That said, however, Histadrut and the country's industrialists have hinted that they would be willing to co-operate in a package of measures designed to right the economy.

The ball is now in Mr. Shamir's court. — Financial Times News Features.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed mixed with an easier bias after retreating from a firm opening, dealers said. At 1500 Friday the F.T. index was up 0.8 at 691.8 after showing a five point gain at 1000 and most constituent stocks ended with small falls.

Dealers said the market failed to find follow through buying after jobbers marked up prices in extension of Thursday's rally. Small selling in mid morning was enough to reverse early gains. Among leaders ICI was down 4p at 554 after 560 and GEC was 2p lower at 186 after 190.

Government bonds ended with gains of as much as ½ point. Golds were mixed and U.S. shares little changed.

Dealers said gains in gilts reflected light buying, with sentiment helped to some extent by U.K. Chancellor Lawson's predictions of a further fall in inflation next year.

Mr. Lawson's statement Thursday night did little to support equities. Dealers said the mood remains uncertain, noting Thursday's rally was on fairly low turnover. Banks fell, with Lloyds down 8p at 454 after 469. Insurers met profit taking with Eagle Star down 1p at 525 and Royal 18p lower at 478. Oils were dull, but breweries firmed with Whitbread up 3p at 140.

Contraceptive sheath maker LRC was 8p up at 108 on studies suggesting cancer risks for some contraceptive pill users.

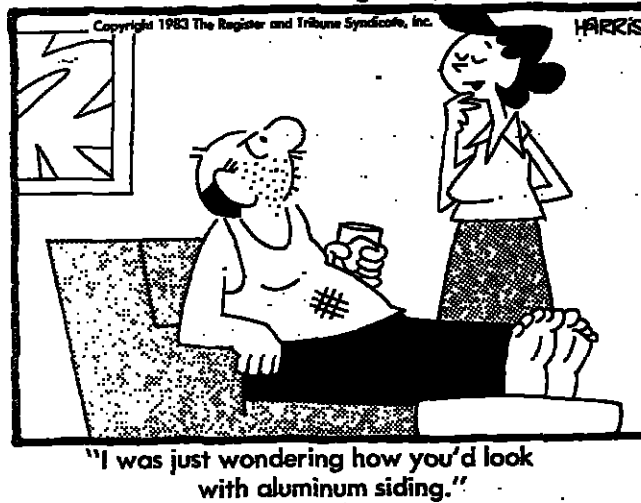
LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.5017/27	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.2307/10	Canadian dollars
	2.5810/20	West German marks
	2.9030/40	Dutch guilders
	2.0987/97	Swiss francs
	52.68/72	Belgian francs
	7.8890/8920	French francs
	1572.50/1573.50	Italian lire
	231.92/232.02	Japanese yen
	7.7590/7620	Swedish crowns
	7.2990/3010	Norwegian crowns
	9.3580/3610	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	393.75/394.25	U.S. dollars

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



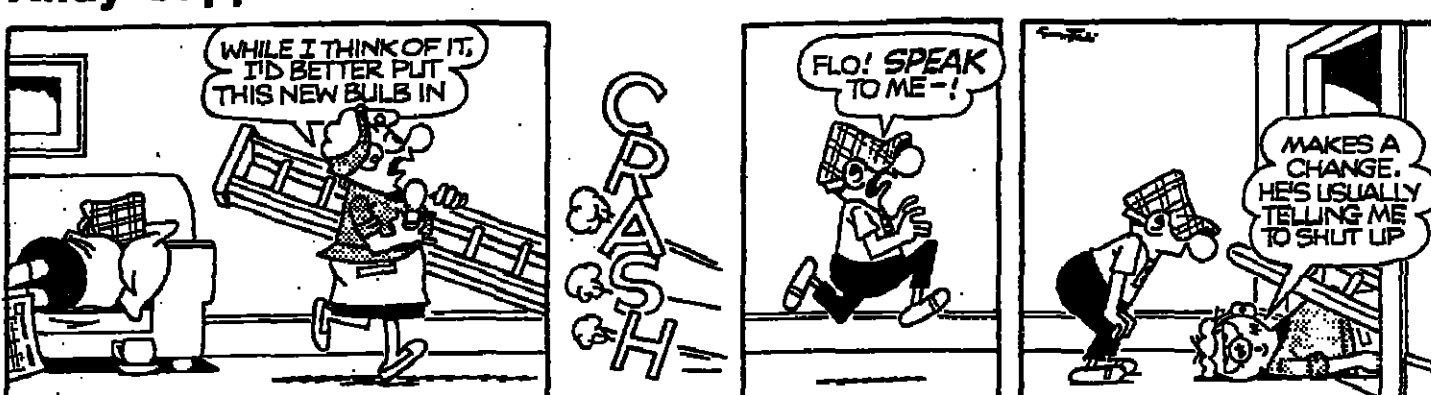
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The early morning finds some delays or obstacles in the path of your aims, so you might as well sleep late for a while conditions take a swing for the better.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) A financial affair can confuse you, but later you can handle it most intelligently and practically. Exercise caution.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't let a partner's ill humor upset you and later you can make yourself look more attractive and feel more vigorous.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Good duty to keep silent concerning intimate matters and to be happy with the one you love. Pleasant surprises ensue.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Some problematical affair with the one you love can be handled speedily, then be out with good friends.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You can get some condition improved at home at breakfast time and then handle career work so that you get a big boost.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Handle local affairs early, then get into matters concerning situations you know little about and persons of differing background.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) After having breakfast, concern yourself with some important bill and then analyze your relationships with persons in business.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Plan how to please determined associate and then you can come to a fine new agreement and make fine deals together.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You can get much routine work done after you have first rid yourself of some limitation standing in your way.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Early do some favor for a good pal, and then be off with your mate to activities you like and can both enjoy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You have some outside duty to perform in the morning but later can be with your family at home and be happy.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Handling that matter at a distance is wise early and then you can take care of local shopping, etc.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... He or she will be one of those interesting young persons who is rather slow because of mulling things over in the mind so much, but once a lesson is learned, it is never forgotten, and the same is true of ideas.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword by Fran Ragus

ACROSS

- 1 A Roosevelt.
- 5 Property.
- 10 Byway.
- 14 USSR city.
- 15 French room.
- 16 Free from constraint.
- 17 Mother of Polux.
- 18 — wind (very fast).
- 20 One — million.
- 21 Animal fat.
- 22 Strategems.
- 23 Coward.
- 25 Labor.
- 27 First-class.
- 28 — mouse (hushed).

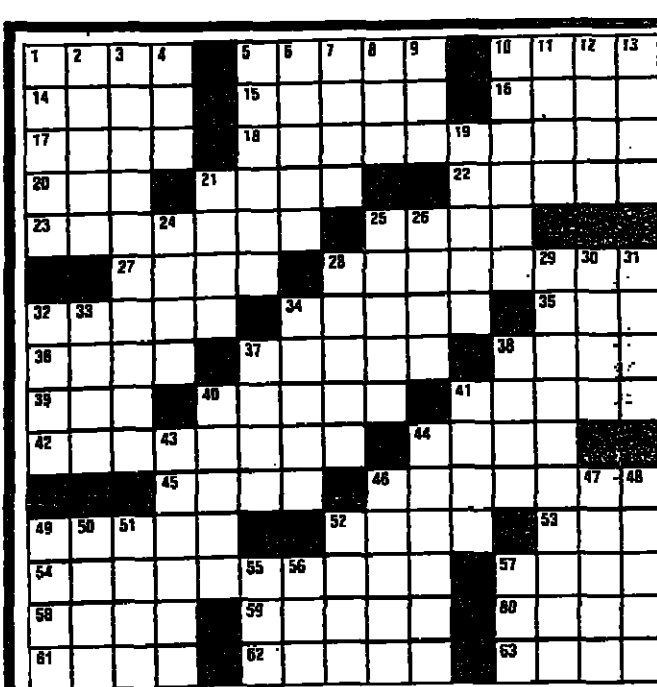
DOWN

- 2 Describe a sentence.
- 34 Knitting stitches.
- 35 Coy.
- 36 Biblical prophet.
- 37 Glossy.
- 38 It's clear to me.
- 39 Fleur-de—.
- 40 Omits.
- 41 Unnatural stupors.
- 42 — a picture (beautiful).
- 44 Vatican tribunal.
- 45 Spool.
- 46 Old-time explosives.
- 49 Certain student.
- 52 Wagon.
- 53 Afternoon affair.
- 54 — an eel (slusive).
- 57 Go down.
- 58 Longevity.
- 59 Alliance acronym.
- 60 — de Pascua.
- 61 In a lazy way.
- 62 Port in Germany.
- 63 Idol.
- 24 Throw about.
- 25 Footstaple.
- 26 Unctuous.
- 28 Gibbs.
- 29 — whip (bright).
- 30 New York stadium.
- 31 Affirmatives.
- 32 Feeler.
- 33 Moslem ruler.
- 34 Small bottle.
- 37 Scottish island.
- 38 Jot.
- 40 Precipitous.
- 41 Rene of France.
- 43 Threefold.
- 44 Logic.
- 46 Jabber.
- 47 Singer.
- 48 Evergreen shrub.
- 49 Wine region in Italy.
- 50 Happy.
- 51 Fish organ.
- 52 Pair.
- 55 Inhabitant: suft.
- 56 Letters for a dream signal.
- 57 Lie.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved

ACROSS

- 1 ARMS
- 2 PIERCE
- 3 BIBLE
- 4 SHEAR
- 5 PINAP
- 6 ATTEMPT
- 7 PEARL
- 8 BEATS
- 9 SQUITE
- 10 BALTIC
- 11 THEATRE
- 12 EARTH
- 13 RESISTANCE
- 14 SAINTLINES
- 15 ERIK
- 16 RHODES
- 17 EVE
- 18 VOTE
- 19 AWE
- 20 SWIFT
- 21 USU
- 22 STRESS
- 23 AETIA
- 24 PEPPERED
- 25 CIRCULAR
- 26 SCINT
- 27 SERBIANT
- 28 PEPPER
- 29 BAYON
- 30 BEET
- 31 DILLA
- 32 EWEEL
- 33 AXLE
- 34 RAMPI
- 35 YISIEL
- 36 SITIA
- 37 KNIGHT



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JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

EVAUM
TILIM
WEEYAL
ALESEW



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: " — — — — — " (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: TASTY ARDOR YEARLY BOUGHT
Answer: What they paid the king who wrote a book—A ROYALTY

WORLD

Pakistan says crackdown aimed at outlaws in Sind

ISLAMABAD (R) — The Pakistan government said Friday police and para-military units in Sind have launched a crackdown on outlaws, and that political protest in the troubled southern province is on the wane.

A government spokesman said the crackdown was launched on Wednesday against several villages in the Nawabshah District, 320 kilometres north of the provincial capital of Karachi.

Lt. Gen. Mujibur Rahman Khan, the top official in the information ministry and one of the country's senior military men, said the operation was continuing. He denied reports by opposition sources that troops and helicopters were involved.

Giving the government's version of what was happening in Sind, centre of a 10-week political agitation against the martial law of President Zia U Haq, he said criminals and bandits had taken advantage of the unrest to carry out a series of hold-ups and robberies.

"The political agitation has more or less died down and trouble now is largely confined to acts of banditry. It is against these bandits, who are not political protesters, that this operation has been launched," he told journalists.

He said some villages in the Nawabshah district where alleged outlaws were said to have hideouts had been sealed off and 98 people arrested so far.

The English-language daily, the Muslim, put the number detained at 200.

The general dismissed reports from members of the outlawed

opposition Movement for the Restoration of Democracy (MRD) who said 22 people were killed. He said only one person had died and four were wounded in a shoot-out at one village.

A helicopter had been used to fly the wounded to hospital and no others were used in the operation, he said.

The general said that over the past 10 weeks of trouble in Sind, where protesters have attacked and set fire to police stations, railway buildings and courts, 52 people, including eight policemen and one soldier were killed and 218 wounded.

Official figures put the death toll for the whole country at more than 60, while the MRD claims it is around 200.

The general alleged that there were links between common criminals and political elements in Sind who had an interest in encouraging unrest.

Bishop loses Marxist power struggle

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados (R) — Maurice Bishop, Grenada's prime minister shot dead in an army takeover Wednesday, wanted to turn his Caribbean spice island into the first English-speaking communist state.

But he lost in a Marxist power-struggle after his hardline opponents accused him of trying to run a one-man show.

Mr. Bishop, who became prime minister through a coup which toppled rightwing leader Eric Gairy in 1979, was put under house arrest last Thursday by his own ruling party for refusing to accept its principle of collective leadership.

Army commander Hudson Austin told the 115,000 islanders in a radio broadcast that Mr. Bishop had deeply resented this principle of the New Jewel Movement (NJM), which he helped to found, and had "taken the position that no action can be taken to which he is opposed."

Mr. Bishop toppled premier Gairy five years after Grenada became independent from Bri-

tain. His father was killed by a policeman in 1974 during an anti-Gairy demonstration.

Born Maurice Rupert Bishop on May 29, 1944, he graduated as a lawyer in London where he was an active member of the campaign against racial discrimination.

He returned to Grenada in 1970 and became a founder of the New Jewel Movement (NJM).

Imprisoned several times for opposing the government, he won a seat in parliament in 1976 and emerged as leader of the opposition.

Three years later he led 200 armed men in a pre-dawn attack on the army barracks and a radio and forced Mr. Gairy into exile in the United States.

Mr. Bishop accused Gairy of repression, corruption and ridiculing Grenada by persistent appeals to the United Nations to investigate flying saucers.

Under Mr. Bishop, a friend of Fidel Castro, Grenada became a close ally of Cuba and the Soviet Union and a thorn in the side of the West — especially the United States.

He cracked down on political opponents, set up Cuban-style mass organisations and received several million dollars-worth of agricultural and transport equipment from Moscow — which opened an embassy on the island shortly after his coup.

Mr. Bishop's leftist views and style of government ensured him enemies both at home and abroad.

The Reagan administration was particularly alarmed at a new airport being built with Cuban help on the southwestern tip of Grenada.

In 1980, Mr. Bishop escaped unhurt from a bomb attack at a public rally. Two people were killed and about 20 injured.

A suspect was killed in a subsequent gunbattle with security forces and Mr. Bishop blamed the incident on the United States which rejected the charge.

In 1981, he accused the U.S. of backing mercenaries planning to invade Grenada and overthrow him. Later the same year he set up a militia, saying the island could not afford a large standing army.

Reagan starts controversy

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan opened himself up to criticism when he refused to make a direct response to a question about whether he thought the late civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was a communist sympathiser.

Mr. Reagan may have talked himself into a domestic controversy when he was asked at his first formal news conference in three months if he agreed with right-wingers that King may have had communist leanings.

Hours before Mr. Reagan's 30-minute television news conference, the senate passed legislation creating a national holiday in honour of the assassinated hero

of the U.S. civil rights movement despite the opposition of some right-wing senators.

Sen. Jesse Helms, an arch-conservative from North Carolina, sparked a bitter debate when he tried to block a vote on the King holiday bill, hoping the courts would direct the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to make public officially sealed surveillance files on King dating from the 1960s.

Mr. Reagan dodged a direct response for his opinion on the communist charges, which have been denounced as slanderous "obscenity" and "filth" by King defenders.

ETA killing jars Spain

MADRID (R) — Spain's socialist government has said it would step up measures to counter terrorist violence in the Basque country after separatist guerrillas shot dead a kidnapped army captain when their demands were rejected.

Political parties and unions called demonstrations in Madrid and Bilbao for to condemn the killing of Capt. Alberto Martin Barrios and Interior Minister Jose Barionuevo announced plans to tighten existing anti-terrorist measures.

Mr. Barionuevo said the police presence in the Basque region would be reinforced and the government would study harsher penalties for terrorist crimes.

Defence Minister Narcis Serra and army chiefs attended the funeral Thursday of Capt. Martin, who was seized two weeks ago by a tiny faction of the Basque guerrilla group ETA.

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COSMONAUTS, SMILE! 'Soyuz-T-9' Vladimír Lyakhov (left) and flight engineer Alexander Alexandrov (TASS photo)

Bonn peace blockades fail

BONN (R) — First attempts by anti-nuclear demonstrators to disrupt West German government business failed Friday as blockades of the defence and economic cooperation ministries passed off peacefully.

After several hours and few incidents, the predominantly young protesters began assembling for their next move — an illegal demonstration in front of the office of Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

At the defence ministry the estimated 2,500 demonstrators came up against almost as many police.

Eyewitnesses said a number of them were dragged clear without incident when they tried to blockade the entrance.

At the economic cooperation ministry, the fewer than 1,000

demonstrators were outnumbered by a massive police presence.

One man was quickly arrested when he appealed through a megaphone for blockade of the main north-south highway running past the ministry.

Defence Minister Manfred Woerner, who reached his office without incident, told reporters the protesters had failed to attain their goal. He said he was pleased there were no clashes.

"The demonstration has failed," declared Economic Cooperation Minister Juergen Warnke, who was also at his desk as usual.

In an apparently related incident, Bonn's American high school, which is run by the U.S.

Defence Department, was closed down after an anonymous phone caller said there was a bomb in the gymnasium. Police found nothing, but students were sent home for the day.

Many of the protesters, who began arriving before dawn, were wrapped in blankets to keep out the cold. Some lit candles and sang.

Mr. Woerner Thursday described the blockade as an "illegal and violent" action and said police would be ordered to move in at any sign of disturbances.

But the mood in the early stages was relaxed, with smiling police holding rather than wearing riot helmets as they chatted to the demonstrators.

Alleged spy claims he is in danger

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Electronics expert James Harper, accused of selling U.S. missile secrets to Poland for more than \$250,000, believes he is in danger from foreign agents, his lawyer says.

The lawyer, William Dougherty, was asked at a press conference if his claim that Mr. Harper thought he was in danger was conjecture. "No, he told me," Mr. Dougherty replied.

Asked if Mr. Harper had received threats, the lawyer answered: "No comment."

Mr. Dougherty's remarks came as U.S. government officials suggested Mr. Harper was seeking to obtain a reduced sentence in return for more information, possibly including details of his alleged meetings with Polish agents.

Strong security precautions were taken when Mr. Harper, 49, looking tired and with a slight beard, made two brief appearances before a federal magistrate in San Francisco.

Mr. Harper, who was refused bail, spoke only once. Asked whether he would give up the right to a preliminary trial hearing, he replied: "I believe that would be in my best interest."

Spectators and reporters attending the hearing had to pass through metal detectors and some were searched.

Mr. Harper, arrested last Saturday, was accused in a U.S. government affidavit of selling documents involving extremely sensitive research and development efforts. These were said to include efforts to enable the Minuteman missile to survive a first nuclear strike by the Soviet Union.

COLUMN

Slowly Slowly put to death

LONDON (R) — Pole Pole, London zoo's bad-tempered African elephant, has been put down after keepers struggled in vain to make her stand, the zoo said. The three-ton, 17-year-old animal, whose name means "Slowly Slowly" in Swahili, suffered exhaustion and a leg injury during an abortive attempt last week to move her to another zoo.

Pole Pole, given to the zoo when she was two by Kenya, was never tamed and had become so violent and wild that she was to have been taken to a more secure zoo outside London. She was sedated for a leg examination but when the anaesthetic wore off she could not get up, the zoo said.

Divers rescue mini-sub pilot

ABERDEEN, Scotland (R) — Divers rescued the pilot of a mini-submarine after he had spent eight hours trapped on the seabed at the base of a North Sea oil rig, the rig's operators said. The alarm was raised after a cable linking the submarine to the rig became fouled, cutting off the main life support lines to the pilot 100 metres below the surface. He survived using emergency back-up systems until a diving support craft arrived and winched down divers in a diving bell to free the cable, a spokesman for the Amoco oil firm said.

Rolls Royce sacks punk rocker

LONDON (R) — A punk rocker at the Rolls Royce Company got the sack because his glued-together hair-style was deemed to be a danger to other workers making aero engines. Apprentice Peter Mortiboy, 18, had nearly two dozen 10 cm. high spiky locks, stiffened and tipped with superglue that could pierce workmates' eyes, officials said. He had already incurred his bosses' disapproval for appearing with 18 earrings, a dog collar, chains, a studded jacket with steel armlets and a stud in his nose. He even had to sit examinations in a separate room so that he did not distract colleagues by his bizarre appearance. After losing his claim against unfair dismissal, Mortiboy told reporters: "My girlfriends don't mind it at all. The only problem I have is sleeping — I have to lie on my stomach."

Poll shows U.K. Labour gaining

LONDON (R) — Britain's opposition Labour Party has recovered ground in the opinion polls since it elected Neil Kinnock as its new leader early this month, according to a poll published Friday. The poll, conducted for the Guardian newspaper, showed that Labour had cut the ruling Conservatives' lead to five percentage points from 16 at the time of the general election in June. It also showed that Labour had increased its lead over the centrist Liberal-Social Democratic alliance from two points to 17 over the same period.

Over 9,000 arms found at Heathrow

LONDON (R) — Security staff at London's Heathrow Airport confiscated more than 9,000 dangerous weapons from airline passengers in just three months earlier this year, the airport security chief said. The tally included 20 guns, 153 tear gas canisters, 606 swords, spears and sticks and 8,417 daggers, machetes, cut-throat razors and other types of knife, security executive Mike Wright said. He said in a radio interview that the haul, gathered between April and June, was "not too surprising". But none of the passengers concerned was a guerrilla, he said.

Peking pets face hard times ahead

PEKING (R) — The Peking city government is banning all dogs at the end of the month and owners are being ordered to have their pets destroyed, an official daily reported. From Nov. 1, the Peking Daily said, it will be illegal to own a dog anywhere in the capital and its suburbs without official approval.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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DEFENSE CARRIES NO INSURANCE POLICY

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ 8752

♥ A Q 8

♦ A 9 2

♣ 8 6 2

EAST

♠ 10 6 4

♥ K 10 9 5

♦ J 10 6

♣ K J 7 5

SOUTH

♠ K Q J

♥ K 7 2

♦ K Q J 8 7

♣ A 9

The bidding:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

4 NT Pass 5 ♠ Pass

6 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠.

If you are looking for a no-risk guarantee, bridge is not your game. Switch to tidbits, winks, but take care that you don't flip a disk into your eye.

South had a difficult rebid. He decided that, because of his good spade fit, his hand was too strong for two no trump, so he elected to jump shift in clubs. When North took a jump preference in diamonds, South launched in to Blackwood and settled in a

small slam when he learned an ace was missing.

West selected the safe lead of the jack of hearts. The declarer soon showed that it was safe and sorry! He won the king of hearts, drew trumps and then forced out the ace of spades. East shifted to a club, but it was too late. When spades split evenly, declarer crossed to a high heart and stuffed his losing club on the thirteenth spade to make his slam.

Obviously, a club lead would have defeated the contract. No matter how declarer maneuvered, he could not have avoided losing a trick in each black suit. But how was West to know?

Many-time world champion Benito Garozzo's advice in his *Bols Bridge* Tip some years ago pointed the way. He explained that, when competent opponents bid a small slam against you, you don't have much time to develop tricks — you are going to gain the lead once more, at best. Therefore, you should make an attacking lead against the slam in an effort to build a quick trick. Obviously, the only suit that offers a real chance of that for West is a club.

What made the affair particularly perplexing for Mrs. Thatcher was that she had long been preaching Victorian virtues and morality in her efforts to turn Britons away from socialism.

But, as Fleet Street papers trumpeted "Parkinson's love child" across their front pages, Mrs. Thatcher insisted it was a private matter.

Others did not see it that way. Conservative Member of Par-

liament Tony Speller who wanted Mr. Parkinson out, declared: "You've got to be whiter than white if you want to stand for public office."

Another Conservative parliamentarian, Ivor Standbrook, protested that Mrs. Thatcher had given the impression she condoned immorality in the private lives of public figures, adding to the heat of the raging moral debate.

Was it fair to have one code of conduct for politicians and another for everyone else?

Were public figures obliged to lead exemplary private lives?

And were they entitled to keep their private lives private?

The first public opinion poll showed 63 per cent thought Mr. Parkinson should not resign. A second poll put the figure at 72 per cent.

The Observer newspaper weighed in: "To say that someone is not fit for public office because of an illicit love affair would exclude a high proportion of the human race."

"Such a test would certainly have excluded some of the best (and worst) prime ministers of the past two centuries, not to mention

a number of kings."

Nevertheless the affair has almost certainly ruined Mr. Parkinson's political career just when the man dubbed "Mr. Clean" was being tipped as a future leader.

The 52-year-old Mr. Parkinson, a top athlete in his days at Cambridge University and a self-made millionaire in business, caught the public eye as a member of Mrs. Thatcher's war cabinet during the Falklands conflict with Argentina last year.

He was also Conservative Party chairman and earned Mrs. Thatcher's gratitude for orchestrating her re-election victory last June, the biggest landslide since 1945.

But Mr. Parkinson was hurriedly replaced as chairman before the affair hit the headlines — by clergyman's son John Gummer.

When Mrs. Thatcher sacked Francis Pym from the Foreign Office, she moved in Sir Geoffrey Howe from the Treasury. Though she had been grooming Mr. Parkinson for greater things, he had to be content with presiding over the combined trade and industry ministries.

The Fleet Street press, which loves scandal in high places, refused to let the story go, and pointed to sex scandals rearing up in the Conservative Party at 10-year

intervals.

In 1963 Harold MacMillan's government was rocked when War Minister John Profumo got mixed up with callgirl Christine Keeler. Mr. Profumo resigned, not because of the affair but because he lied to parliament about it and because national security was at risk as Ms. Keeler had also been involved with a Soviet diplomat.

In 1973 junior Defence Minister Lord Lampton quit after he was photographed in bed with a callgirl.

Now in 1983 comes the Parkinson affair. Though it hardly ranks as a serious sex scandal, it was on the front pages every day since Ms. Parkinson confessed his adultery.

Conservative Party managers felt the media blew the affair out of all proportion and Mr. Parkinson himself accused the press of writing wild stories about him tottering on the brink.

What has upset some crusty Conservatives is not that he took a mistress and made her pregnant, but that he reneged on a promise to marry her.

The decent thing

"He broke his word," sniffed one senior Conservative. "Why didn't he get divorced and do the

decent thing?"

Mr. Parkinson jilted his 36-year-old lover, a karate expert nurturing political ambitions herself, and decided to stay with his wife of 26 years, Ann, and their three daughters.

That, adjudged the pro-conservative Daily Telegraph, was the right thing to do. "It is a very eccentric morality that a husband's promise to his mistress should take priority over his responsibilities to his wife and children."

The Anglican bishop of Birmingham condemned the media interest as excessive, amounting almost to prurience, and complained: "What is far more important than the case of Mr. Parkinson is the state of morality in the country."

The Daily Mirror was aware of the story weeks ago and sent a photographer to snap the expectant mother at her door. But then it backed off and never ran the story.

It was the satirical magazine Private Eye which later hinted at the affair and nudged Mr. Parkinson to bring it into the open.

Private Eye's editor Richard Ingrams said: "If you read out all the people who have had a bit on the side, you wouldn't have many left."